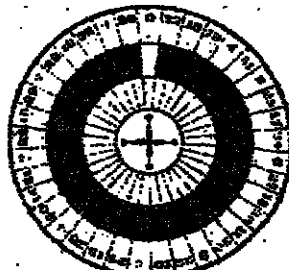


THE TIMES Tomorrow

The casino game
Return of the high rollers: the state of the game in Britain's casinos



Tibetan journey
A pilgrimage to the heart of Tibet

Hot meals
Values look at the microwave warm-up

British Council
What have TS Eliot and the Think Tank in common? George Walden explains

Rugby
David Hands previews Rugby's John Player Cup

ICI anger at fall in shares

The chairman of ICI, Mr John Harvey-Jones, angrily criticized the stock market for marking the group's shares lower despite a £560m surge in profits. The shares fell 16p to 376p after ICI reported profits of £619m for 1983 and an increased dividend.

Page 21

Junta arrest

The former Commander of Argentina's Air Force, Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, became the third member to be arrested of the Junta which ordered the Falklands invasion.

Page 7

It's a long way to come to get a FORTES meal



Stronger pound

Sterling rose 1.15 cents to close at \$1.4625, its highest level since November 30, on foreign exchange markets made jittery by the flare-up in the Gulf war.

Cigarette tax

Health ministers are pressing Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to increase the price of a packet of cigarettes by 20p in the Budget.

Crash inquest

A teenage girl who was one of six survivors of the Isles of Scilly helicopter crash told the inquest of her fight to keep alive in the sea.

Grenada appeal

A foreign legal team has appealed against the Grenadian courts' refusal to allow British lawyers to represent people accused of murdering Maurice Bishop.

Liberal hope

Liberals in Cheshire claim that they can win over enough Conservative voters by polling day next week to beat Mr Tony Benn in the by-election.

Letter: On Scott Lithgow, from Professor J Pickett, Falklands

From Mr A Monk, animal experiments, from Mr G Chalmers

Leading articles: French lorry dispute; Hongkong Civil liberties

Features, pages 8, 9, 12

Why the church should return to the straight and narrow

French industrial violence, a matter of national temperament: David Watt on Britain's conflicting interests in South Africa.

Friday Page: Message and the law

Spectrum: The Times Guide to the TIS primaries.

Generating jobs pages 15-19

Special Report on successes and difficulties in creating work for young people

Obituary, page 14

Dr Claude Nicol, Miss Joan Liveridge

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French offer £160 per driver as blockade goes on

● A grant of 2,000 francs (£160) is being offered by the French Government as a first instalment to all lorry drivers trapped by the worsening road blockade

● High in the Italian Alps, stranded Britons demanded that Whitehall fly them home and hire guards for their marooned vehicles

● France hinted that it might use troops to clear the roads, but only as a last resort. Madame Edith Gresson, the French Foreign Trade Minister, said in London that the police were unable to cope

● Thousands of British holidaymakers face long delays this weekend. One coach operator is planning to bring passengers home by air and rail (Back page)

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French Government announced yesterday that it has offered a grant of 2,000 francs (£160) as a first instalment in financial assistance to all lorry drivers, French and foreign, trapped in the Alps by the continuing dispute. It has also been in contact with insurance companies to try to persuade them to cover the cost of lost cargoes.

This latest development came as the situation became ever more confused, with dozens more blockades going up in some areas of France, while others were being taken down. Mr Ray Whitney, Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, had talks with French officials in Paris on the question of compensation for British drivers, and said afterwards: "We agreed we should keep in touch on this issue."

British Embassy officials said that there were more than 300 British lorries in the approach roads up to the Mont Blanc and Frejus tunnels on the French side of the border and about another 100 on the Italian side. Consulate officials were in direct contact with many of them, mainly giving information, comfort and advice, but also attending to some isolated specific needs such as money and medical care. Most drivers were carrying credit

cards and did not therefore have immediate cash problems. Sir John Fretwell, the British Ambassador, said that reports indicated that while there may initially have been some sympathy for the French lorry drivers, most British drivers were now growing increasingly exasperated by the cold and discomfort and wanted to get home.

Leading article page 13

The main road out of Paris to Charles de Gaulle airport remained blocked yesterday and Mr Whitney, along with most other air passengers, was obliged to take the express metro to the airport to catch his flight back to London. Other flights by helicopter at a cost of 4,800 francs for a round trip for four.

Police, out in force in the Greater Paris area, managed to keep the *Peripherique* round the capital free from blockades by banning all articulated lorries, and also succeeded in preventing a threatened total blockade of the international Rungis meat and vegetable market to the south of the city.

where the trouble first began: the Marseilles area, where new blockades went up; Lorraine, and the northeastern suburbs of Paris. In virtually all areas, some traffic is now being allowed to filter through, however.

Fifteen foreign lorries, including some British, were reported to have been allowed through the blockade at Cluses on the road up to the Mont Blanc tunnel. French lorries carrying heating fuel, petrol, and food provisions destined for the ski resorts in the Chamonix valley were also being allowed through.

In Paris the Government remained firm, refusing to give in to pressure for the immediate resumption of negotiations, but repeating its readiness to reopen talks on March 1, given a "gesture of goodwill" by the lorry drivers.

The four ministers most immediately concerned are now meeting twice daily to discuss the dispute which is starting to have a serious effect on the economic activities and the supply of provisions in some areas, as well as traffic flows.

M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister who presided over yesterday's emergency ministerial meetings in the absence of M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, said that

Continued on back page, col 1

Stranded British lorry drivers demand to be flown home

From Patricia Clough, Courmayeur

Tension peaked yesterday as 5,000 troops in the Italian Alps, stranded British lorry drivers demanded that the British Government fly them home and hire guards for their marooned vehicles. Hundreds of British schoolchildren sliding happily down the sun-drenched slopes at Courmayeur risked being stranded on the wrong side of the Channel this weekend as the French drivers' blockade of roads and ports dragged on with no end in sight.

Twenty British drivers blocked at the Italian end of the Mont Blanc tunnel met Mr Cyril Cole, the British consul in Milan, at Courmayeur police station and demanded to be flown home and to have their lorries guarded until the blockade is over.

Mr Gordon Pirie, a spokesman for the consulate said that they were in touch with the Foreign Office to see if this could be done. But those drivers who could not pay their own fare home would need to sign an undertaking that they would reimburse the Government later on, he said.

"Why shouldn't the Government pay to get us out of this jam," exploded Mr Giuseppe Di

Gennaro, a British owner driver from Bedford. "It's not our fault we are here."

"They spend millions on the war in the Falklands. Why won't they spend anything on us," asked Mr Dave Smith of Liverpool.

Resentment was building up fast among the 40 or so British drivers kicking their heels on the high mountain road leading to the tunnel as days dragged past, money got scarcer and the Government in their view seemed uninterested in their plight.

"If it goes on much longer there will be trouble," Mr Les Mullin, of Selby Bridge in Yorkshire said. "It would only take a silly incident to start something off."

Nerves have already begun to fray. A misunderstood joke, a sharp dig in the ribs from an Italian customs officer and Mr Tony Govey, aged 28, of Southampton found himself in a brawl with four customs men.

"It ended up with a gun pointed at my head and handcuffs on my wrists," he said. "A session with an interpreter in the customs chief's office cleared the air but the same thing could happen again at any moment."

Bad feelings between British and French drivers are rising to the surface. The British drivers recall that during their strike in Britain French drivers were allowed to come and go at will while now they were being penalized by the French action. "I think we should hit back," Mr Di Gennaro said. "We should ban them from England."

French lorry drivers howled down British colleagues being interviewed for Belgian television. "We said the blockade wasn't our problem," they said, "and so on." Mr Mullin said. The television had to scrap the recording.

The Italian authorities are providing the drivers with two free hot meals a day - "We owe a lot to the locals" - but the British accused the French of appropriating all the other free food and clean clothing being distributed along the road. "There is never anything left for us," Among a group of a dozen drivers eating pastas in a local restaurant the only thought was to get out. "We can't continue in these conditions much longer," said Mr Mullin, who has been stranded by the blockade or customs go slow for three weeks.

Israeli planes pound Lebanon

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israeli bombers yesterday pounded targets deep inside Lebanon for the third time this week, as part of a new, intensified strategy aimed at preventing the reestablishment of a Palestinian military infrastructure in areas abandoned by the Israeli Army when it retreated south last year to the Awali river.

It is understood that the bombing sorties will continue, especially in the area of Bhamdoun, the town 12 miles south-east of Beirut hit again yesterday, where the Israeli Army claims that large numbers of militant Palestinians from various groups have established

bases and arms dumps in abandoned buildings. Israel's military command said that two buildings "used as terrorist headquarters and bases" and a 130mm artillery position were hit in yesterday's noon attack. The controversial strategy has been approved by the Cabinet and is intended to continue, despite proposals now under consideration for a secondary withdrawal to a line further south than the Awali.

"Whenever we have a good target, we will attack it," explained one Israeli source.

The Israelis have acknowledged for the first time that a number of innocent workmen from Bangladesh were killed or

wounded when their jets attacked a warehouse near the coastal town of Damour on Sunday. The Israelis claim that the workers (whom they suggest were being used as "sweated labour" by a Lebanese employer) were sharing the large building with members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

Combined with Monday's massive show of Israeli armour on roads north of the Awali, the air attacks are an attempt physically to prevent Palestinian reinforcement, and to deliver a sharp warning to Druze militiamen not to shelter

Continued on page 6, col 2

Three shipyards bid to replace Sir Galahad

Three British state-owned shipyards, Cammell Laird at Birkenhead, Swan Hunter on the Tyne and Harland and Wolff in Belfast are lining up to win what, in emotional terms, will be the most important contract for years - the replacement of the 5,600-ton Sir Galahad landing ship. The vessel will cost between £30m and £40m.

Sir Galahad, one of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary's logistic landing ships, was bombed by Argentine forces on June 8, 1982, in Bluff Cove in the Falklands. Thirty-three Welsh guardsmen lost their lives

By David Hewson

Mr Aubrey Singer, the managing director of BBC television, left the corporation yesterday and was replaced by Mr Bill Cotton, who had been responsible for its satellite broadcasting project.

BBC sources denied that the departure of Mr Singer after 35 years with the corporation had anything to do with its recent dismal audience ratings and its battle for an increase in the licence fee next year.

However, the BBC described Mr Cotton, a former head of BBC 1 and light entertainment, as a man with a popular eye who will take a sharp look at the present schedules.

Mr Singer (left): Replaced by Mr Cotton



Mr Singer (left): Replaced by Mr Cotton

Staff in BBC news and current affairs programmes are particularly worried that any reworking of the television output to bring in more viewers would particularly affect them. Mr Cotton, aged 55, son of



Mr Jack Hart (right), chairman of the GCHQ union committee, speaking to Mr Kinnoch as civil servants lobbied MPs at the Commons yesterday after a rally.

Thatcher rejects Cheltenham union options

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night gave an uncompromising rejection of trade union proposals to maintain membership at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) and made it clear that she was convinced the proposed union ban would be accepted by almost all the 7,000 staff involved.

The GCHQ Civil Service unions responded immediately by calling on their 600,000 members to stage a half-day strike next Tuesday as a "demonstration of repugnance and anger" at Mrs Margaret Thatcher's stance in the meeting in Downing Street. The unions are urging members to attend lunchtime protest rallies and not to return to work in the afternoon.

Mrs Thatcher told the unions during an hour's meeting yesterday that she was not prepared to concede the principle of union membership at the secret communication bases and argued that to do so "could even put people's lives at risk". Union negotiators emerged from the meeting shocked at the vehemence of the Prime Minister's remarks which they said were "deeply offensive". They are due to meet again today to plan further action beyond Tuesday's protest and an emergency meeting of the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, is likely to be held on Monday to discuss the GCHQ crisis.

It was clear from the meeting in Downing Street that Mrs Thatcher was not prepared to countenance the presence of national trade unions at GCHQ. She argued that union membership carried an inherent conflict of loyalty. The maintenance of security and intelligence services came first, she told the unions.

The unions said that they would not accept the Government's decision and would campaign to get it changed by "this Government or the next Government if necessary".

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, who went to Downing Street with the Civil Service union leaders, said that he resigned the Prime Minister's implication that union membership "makes me a potential traitor".

Whichall sources claimed last night that as many as two thirds of GCHQ employees had now signed forms renouncing union membership and it is clear that the Government is confident of winning over those who have not signed before the March 1 deadline.

Ministers leaving the meeting with the unions were at pains to explain that the GCHQ union ban was not the forerunner to curbs on union membership in other areas of Government operations. Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said that it was "absolutely and categorically" not the Government's intention to extend the union ban.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said as he left Downing Street: "Our position is plain and our decision stands." He said that it was unreasonable to expect staff in "an agency of such crucial importance" to be subject to the pressures exerted during the 1981 campaign of selective strikes.

The unions had presented to the Government a four-point package of proposals which guaranteed, they claimed, that there would be no future disruption of GCHQ operations as a result of industrial action. However, it was made clear by Mrs Thatcher that there was a "gap that could not be bridged".

Basque leader shot dead

The number three figure in the Basque Socialist Party and a leading candidate for Sunday's general elections in the autonomous region was assassinated yesterday at his home in San Sebastian by a hooded gunman immediately taken to be from ETA, the Basque separatist movement. (Richard Wigg wires).

Señor Enrique Casas, aged 47, an Andalusian-born physician and Senator in the Madrid Parliament was gunned down on the stairs of his home as he was preparing to return to party headquarters after lunch.

The killing came as campaigning, which will end at midnight tonight, went into top gear in the Basque country. It provoked immediate reactions in the Madrid Parliament and Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish Prime Minister, spoke immediately on learning of the killing by phone with Señor Carlos Cascajosa, the outgoing Chief Minister of the Basque autonomous government.

Yesterday's meeting of the board of governors also promoted Mr Alan Protheroe, the assistant director-general, who will now deputise for Mr Milne. Mr Geoffrey Back, presently deputy director of finance, will succeed Mr Paul Hughes as director of finance.

Cabinet 'horror' at pit incident

By Kenneth Cosling

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday expressed to Mr Ian MacGregor, the National Coal Board chairman, the "horror" he and Cabinet colleagues felt at the "appalling violence" shown to Mr MacGregor at Ellington colliery, Northumbria, on Wednesday.

After a visit to Mr MacGregor at the board headquarters in London, Mr Walker said he had come to express regret at what had happened and support for the way Mr MacGregor was trying to create a successful industry.

The Coal Board chairman was clearly upset at the way the incident had been reported. On television and in the papers he was shown lying stunned on the ground, after being shoved over by a crowd of miners protesting about the planned loss of 600 jobs at the nearby Bates colliery.

Yesterday Mr MacGregor waved his fist at reporters, crying: "You people want my head examined... why don't you leave me alone?"

In the Commons, the Prime Minister called the incident "disgraceful". Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, accused the Government of "trying to make a mockery out of a regrettable incident".

Northumbria police are preparing a report for the Home Office.

Before a fence collapsed, sending Mr MacGregor on to the ground, a man was seen grabbing the lapels of his jacket.

Yesterday, the man, Mr John Kall, aged 31, an underground worker, said he



Mr Kall: Regret but no apology

had held Mr MacGregor because he wanted to stop and talk.

"I have nothing to be ashamed of and there will be no apology from me", Mr Kall said. "I am sorry he got knocked over but it was the crowd, not me."

Mr MacGregor has written to thank Mr Mick Owen, a BBC reporter, who went to his aid when he was knocked down. Mr MacGregor wrote: "The behaviour of the man, who confronted me was not typical of the people who work in the industry. It is a pity that a few headbangers can do so much harm to coal's reputation."

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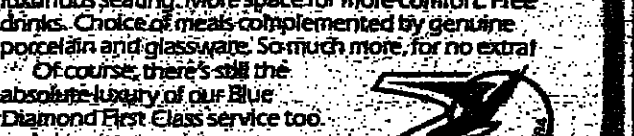
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SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

Teenager describes fight for survival after helicopter crash in sea

A teenager described yesterday how she helped to save Howard Goddard, aged 11, a fellow survivor of the Isles of Scilly helicopter disaster which claimed 20 lives last July.

Speaking in a barely audible whisper, Ellen Haslow, aged 16, recounted the minutes when she and five others struggled for survival in the sea off St Mary's. Two Isles of Scilly councillors and two pilots of the British Airways helicopter, were among the six survivors.

Mr Derrick Pepperell, the West Cornwall coroner, resumed yesterday's inquest into the 20 deaths, guided Miss Haslow through her evidence.

The coroner said that Howard Goddard, aged 12, was in difficulty because he could not swim very well. Miss Haslow said: "I swam to him and he hung on to me for a while. I got hold of a bag and managed to hold on to that."

Earlier, Miss Haslow of Oakthorpe, Leicestershire, whose parents, John and Marie, died in the crash, said that she was sitting about three seats back on the left of the helicopter.

She said that the helicopter was shrouded in fog. Before take-off she said she had been given no instructions by the steward

on what to do in the event of the helicopter coming down. They were all asked to put on seatbelts and this was checked by the steward. She said that she heard the steward tell someone that the aircraft was flying at about 100ft.

She said: "I think I looked out of the window. I could see the surface of the sea. I thought it was a bit low but I was not frightened." There was no warning before the helicopter hit the sea and no one had said anything, she said.

"I felt the helicopter hit the water. I still had my seatbelt on. The water came in from the front of the aircraft. I managed to undo the seatbelt and we then ended up standing on the roof because it was upside down, she said.

She "shot out" through a hole in the aircraft. "When I got to the surface there was thick fog. I could see about two metres."

She said she could see two of the other survivors, councillors Mrs Megan Smith and Mrs Lucille Langley-Williams, in the water. She then spotted Howard Goddard. She described how she swam over to him.

She said that the boy hung on to her for a while, and that she managed to get hold of a bag and hold on to that. She

continued: "I heard someone shouting and it was the two pilots. The six of us ended up more or less together in two groups of three." She was with Captain Lawlor, and Howard Goddard before being rescued.

Earlier, Mr Robert Matthews, a senior inspector of the accident investigation branch of the Department of Transport, said that he believed the accident prevented any possibility of a distress signal being sent out.

The 20 who died were: Mr Ronald Goddard, aged 49, an insurance assessor, his wife, Ida, aged 47, and their children, David, aged 15, and Clare, aged 13, of Ickleton, Cambridgeshire; Mr David Fuller, aged 43, an orthopaedic surgeon, his wife Jean, aged 41, a doctor, and their three children Rachel, aged 15, Simon, aged 13, and Alison, aged 11, from Headington, Oxfordshire; Mr David Nye, aged 36, a journalist and his wife Susan, aged 37, and their three children, Sophie, aged 10, Susanah, aged nine, and Kyrstyan, aged six, of Newick, Sussex; Mr John Haslow, aged 46, a colliery worker, and his wife Marie, aged 46, from Oakthorpe, Leicestershire; Mrs Ema Curson, aged 76, from Wisbech, Cambridgeshire; Dr Patricia Evans, aged 53, a consultant physician, from Essex; Mr Michael Sturgeon, aged 47, of Harrow, Wiltshire; Mr Robert Lander, aged 22, a British Airways cabin attendant, of Penzance, Cornwall.



Miss Haslow arriving at the Guildhall, Penzance, for yesterday's inquest which was also attended by Mrs Langley-Williams (top), Captain Charlton (centre) and Captain Lawlor, who were among the six survivors.

'No right' for patients to be told every risk

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Doctors are not obliged to inform patients of every single risk that an operation carries, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

In a test judgment on a patient's right to information before consenting to surgery, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said that patients had a right to a real choice and to have the alternatives placed fairly before them.

Doctors should not play God, he said. The law could not stand idly by if, in an excess of paternalism, they denied patients such a choice, he said.

He ruled, however, that a surgeon who failed to inform a patient that an operation carried a small risk of damage to the spinal cord did not act negligently.

With two other judges he dismissed an appeal by Mrs Amy Sidaway, aged 73, who alleged negligence by the Bethlem Royal and Maudsley hospitals in south-east London in not warning her of the 1 per cent risk involved.

Mrs Sidaway, of East Dulwich, south London, sued the hospitals over the operation in 1974 in which her spinal chord was damaged. Negligence was denied.

She was left with severe impairment of movement on her right side and some ill effects on her left, and would have been awarded £67,000 agreed damages had she established liability.

Sir John said that a doctor fulfilled his duty to inform a patient if he acts in accordance with a practice rightly accepted and proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men.

In appropriate cases, however, a judge would be entitled to reject a unanimous medical view if satisfied that it was manifestly wrong.

Law Report, page 24

'Other man' query over death of art student

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Counsel for the defence in the Susan Renhard murder trial yesterday referred the jury to the parable of the Good Samaritan.

In his final speech at Nottingham crown court, Mr Martin Thomas, QC, said that the Samaritan in this case was Mr Frederick Green, who found the body and summoned assistance. "But was he the second person to see the body or the third?" Mr Thomas asked the jury.

Mr Norman Smith, aged 18, the student accused of Miss Renhard's murder in a Peak District beauty spot, says that he left her still breathing. Mr Thomas asked the jury to consider the possibility that another person then came along and strangled her.

He mentioned Mr Takafuna Tanaka, aged 35, a Japanese courier who was in the vicinity at the time. Mr Thomas said that because both prosecution and defence considered Mr Tanaka an unreliable and untruthful witness he was not able to be called to give evidence.

Mr Thomas told the jury: "I am not prosecuting counsel against Mr Tanaka. I am not trying to present a case against him. You have been told that he was arrested and has been interviewed."

He added: "I accept there was no forensic evidence to connect him. But beyond that I do not accept anything."

Mr Smith, of Sunnyside Villas, Castleton, Derbyshire, pleads not guilty to murdering Miss Renhard, aged 21, an art student for West Hagley, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, on June 27, last year.

Mr Douglas Draycott QC, for the prosecution, described the theory of another man being involved as "rubbish". The case continues today when the jury will retire.

Police study drink-drive case ruling

Magistrates at Basingstoke, in Hampshire, yesterday dismissed a drink-driving charge against a musician after it was alleged that he had used a large quantity of spirit of camphor on his lips and in his mouth to help him to play his trombone properly and that had increased the reading of an intoximeter machine.

A Hampshire police spokesman said after the case: "The assistant chief constable, Mr Richard Stobart, has said that in circumstances such as these our first step is to examine the implications of the decision."

The court had heard that the musician Mr Robert Todd, of Mead Lane, Farnham, Surrey, had been playing for a band at Tidworth near Andover, where he had drunk four or five cans of lager. He had then fallen asleep while driving home and had been involved in an accident. Tests had showed that his body contained nearly three times the permitted amount.

Dr Christopher Chatfield, director of the Chalfield Applied Research Laboratories said he concluded after test that the drink consumed by Mr Todd "would not have enabled him to reach the legal limit." Mr Todd, who pleaded not guilty, said the spirit deadened the lips, allowing him to play the trombone properly.

Low rates rises for London

Two London rates announced yesterday confirm that this year's average increases will be low. Conservative Westminster is to add only 1 per cent to its domestic ratepayers' bills and Camden, which is Labour, is to increase household bills by just over 7 per cent. Both have benefited from the 7.5 per cent cut in the Greater London Council's rate.

Lady Porter, the leader of Westminster council, said the GLC's rates cut could have been bigger if it had not decided to increase its spending by £68m.

Bodies of couple found on beach

A couple whose bodies were washed up on a beach at Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, were claimed yesterday as Mr Patrick Garvey, aged 55, and his wife Emily, aged 53, who lived at Golden Avenue, near the beach.

The police were investigating a theory that Mr Garvey may have drowned trying to pull his wife from the sea. Neighbours said she had recently had hospital treatment for depression.

Doctors to test computer link

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Department of Health is planning to provide computer terminals for 3,000 general practitioners to improve the reporting of adverse reactions to drugs and allow other experiments in new technology.

The one-year experimental project will initially speed up the reporting of side-effects, the Department of Health said yesterday. At present, doctors send in yellow cards when side-

effects are noticed, and their use has contributed to the withdrawal of about five drugs over the past two years.

About 13,000 yellow cards are sent in every year and the department's medicines division hopes the terminals will increase the number of reports to about 20,000 a year.

The computers will also be used for other experiments,

including providing doctors with information from the Prescription Pricing Authority on the number and cost of drugs they prescribe, after evidence that GPs can be persuaded to cut the cost of their prescribing if they have such information.

Computers can also be used to call in patients for routine procedures such as cervical smears or vaccinations, and can ease other administrative work.

Wife in fake death plot, murder trial told

A woman was involved in a "chilling" plot to fake her husband's death so that the couple could get £76,000 insurance money, a jury was told at Manchester Crown Court yesterday.

Mrs Valerie Mason, aged 22, lured an insurance salesman to their home in Ashton-in-Makenfield, Lancashire, on the pretext of wanting to talk about insurance.

Rose, QC, for the prosecution, said: "There, her husband beat him to death with a sash window weight."

Mrs Mason, the mother of two children, denies murdering David Moore.

Mr Rose said Mr Moore was chosen as the victim because he bore some resemblance to Mr Mason, who has already pleaded guilty to murder.

The case continues today.

Getty bid for Wilton art refused

By Frances Gibb

The Lord of Pembroke has been approached by dealers with a view to selling art treasures from his magnificent collection at Wilton House, Salisbury, to the Getty Museum in Malibu, California.

The approach to the owner of one of the top-ranking British collections is the latest to be prompted by the enormous spending power of the Getty Museum.

Lord Pembroke said yesterday that dealers had "put out feelers" to him, among others, to see if he was interested in selling a number of the masterpieces at Wilton. He emphasized that he was not prepared to sell.

One of the most important works at Wilton is "The Card Player", a painting by Lucas van Leyden (1494-1533), estimated to be worth about £3m.

The offer will increase pressure on the Government to take action to protect the owners of historic homes against the Getty spending power.

It coincides with the temporary stopping yesterday by the Minister for the Arts, Lord Gowrie, of an export licence for a Rubens drawing, "A Man in a Korean Costume" bought by Getty for £327,600. British museums have three months to try to match that price.

The Getty Museum has to spend £1m a week to retain its charitable status.



Mustique bound: The Duke and Duchess of Kent leaving Heathrow Airport yesterday for a holiday on the Caribbean island of Mustique. The Princess was wearing leather trousers and boots. Princess Margaret and her son Viscount Linley are already on holiday on the island.

Friend 'murdered couple'

A Hell's Angel accused of the murders of a young couple, claimed yesterday that they were killed while he was visiting his parents. Michael Bardell told a jury at Northampton Crown Court that his friend, Stephen Parkinson, killed them after borrowing his car and dropping him off at his parents' home. "When he picked me up again he told me he had killed them", he said. "I was at my parents' home."

Mr Bardell, aged 32, and Mr Parkinson, aged 23, both of Northampton, have denied murdering David Cox, aged 23, and his girlfriend Debbie Fallon, aged 19, whose bodies were found in Saley Forest near Northampton, last spring.

They have also pleaded not guilty to conspiring to murder another Hell's Angel, Mr Ian Turner.

The trial continues today.

Combating kerb crawling

Police turn to 1361 Act for help

By Richard Dowden

A 600-year-old Act appears to be working well as a legal device to deter kerb crawling in several large cities.

The Justice of the Peace Act, 1361, contains a clause which was designed to protect Flemish merchants as they plied their trade around England. However, after the Nottinghamshire Constabulary first successfully used the Act, several other forces have resorted to it to discourage men from driving around red light areas in search of prostitutes.

Men convicted under the Act are bound over for a period of one or two years in sums of between £100 and £200. However, its deterrent effect lies in the fact that the men's names are published.

So far there have been no acquittals under the terms of the Act and last Friday Mr Justice Caulfield upheld its use

when he rejected an appeal in the High Court.

Supt Keith Newman, of Nottinghamshire Police, said yesterday that he was more than happy with the Act. So far 41 people have been convicted under its terms in Nottingham and nine other cases are pending.

It has also been used in Norwich where 20 men were bound over, and Luton where it was used for the first time on Wednesday. In Plymouth, according to Supt Nicholas Crowhurst, simply the threat of its use has reduced kerb crawling.

But the Criminal Law Revision Committee of the Home Office has been asked by Mr David Mellor, the Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, to bring forward its report on kerb crawling to this autumn in advance of its general report on prostitution

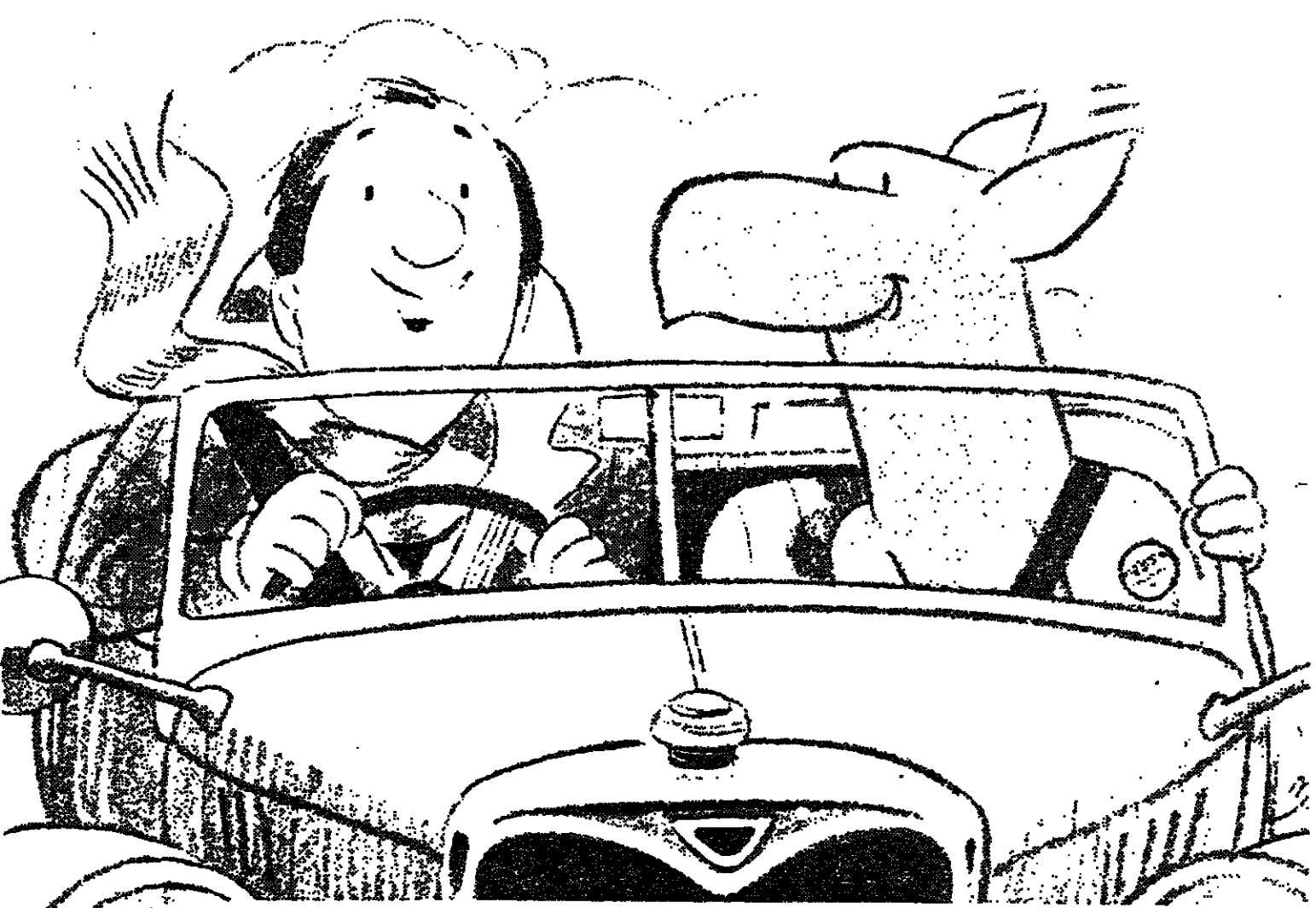
due to be published this spring. The Home Office is also concerned that if a prostitute is committing a criminal offence by soliciting, the client should be held equally responsible for creating a nuisance on the streets.

In December, 1982, the committee's working paper proposed that to account a woman from a car for sexual purposes so as to cause her fear or annoyance should be a specific offence. It is not thought, however, that new legislation on prostitution will be in force until 1985.

In almost all cases where kerb crawlers have been arrested, prostitutes have been arrested at the same time for loitering.

Senior police officers speak of a "general crackdown on prostitution" and "cleaning up" certain areas. Interim figures in several areas confirm this.

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Changes for Crown Agents to go private

PRIVATIZATION

Proposals for the reorganization of the Board of Crown Agents have been broadly accepted by the Government with a view to their privatization after the position has been carefully considered. Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, said in a statement to the Commons. The timing and method of privatization would be settled later.

Mr Raison said: Last summer the Government of Brunei terminated its contract with the Crown Agents for Overseas Development and Administration for the management of its investments. This resulted in significant loss of income to the Crown Agents, amounting to up to £4m in a full year, so that action became necessary to enable them to meet their financial duties under the Crown Agents Acts 1979.

The Board of Crown Agents accordingly submitted to Government proposals for reorganization, an improvement of the efficiency of the business, designed to enable them to achieve financial viability not later than 1986.

These proposals included the reduction of staff from about 1,200 to under 500, changes in terms of service to enable them to provide services competitively, and the sale of their principal offices at 4 Millbank, which would make possible the reduction of the commencing capital debt from its current level of £19.8m to £9m.

The Government has taken the opportunity to undertake a thorough review of the future of the Crown Agents and the need for their continued existence in their present form. In undertaking this, we have had regard to the Government's policy to reduce the size of the public sector, to the services which the Crown Agents provide for developing countries and to their value to Britain's own interests.

On the basis of this review I

expect Crown Agents to be fully profitable by not later than 1986.

After very careful consideration of the representations made to me, the Government has decided broadly to endorse the proposals of the Board of Crown Agents for their reorganization with a view to their privatization in due course. The timing and method of privatization will be settled later. Pending the necessary legislation, the Board will set in train appropriate measures of internal reorganization in order to facilitate privatization.

To facilitate the financing of this reorganization, it is the Government's intention to waive in full under Section 17(4) of the Crown Agents Act 1979 the interest due on the commencing capital debt in 1984 and to seek parliamentary approval under Section 17(10) for any waiver necessary in 1985 and 1986.

I believe that this decision will enable the Crown Agents, under their vigorous Chairman, Mr Peter Graham, to continue to serve successfully both Britain and the developing world.

Mr George Robertson, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said: The Minister and this Government have rightly recognized the Crown Agents as one of our invaluable role and it would therefore be disgraceful if the ideological beliefs of the Treasury were allowed to wipe out the statement is welcome in as much, and only in as much, as it accepts the Crown Agents reorganization plan and the rescheduling of the immediate debt problems.

However, the threat of quite unnecessary and damaging privatization is still to hang over the heads of the Crown Agents, which would make no sense at all in this area and which would enormously damage the viability and independence of the Crown Agents, is still there as a prospect in the

indefinite future.

As long as it goes on it will go on robbing the Crown Agents of the talent inside their organization that they have been losing in this period of uncertainty since last September.

What consultations have the Government had with the client countries of the Crown Agents since it is their view and the confidence which determines the Agents' value?

What consultations have been made with the staff of the Crown Agents in view of the substantial period of uncertainty they have suffered? What is the position of the pensions office in East Kilbride? The Financial Times today says it is to be subsumed within a Whitehall department.

Regarding the sale of 4 Millbank, what studies have been made of the state of the London property market which suggests this would be the best time to sell a valuable property in the public interest?

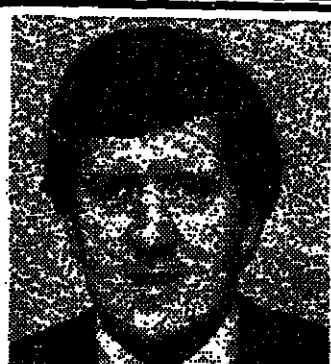
Mr Raison replied that as the agents moved towards privatization it should be possible to look at each stage and so maintain their position. He hoped the agents could improve forward and implement reorganization, then consider the best way to move to privatization without throwing away the advantages of the existence of the agents.

Mr David Allen (Liverpool, Mosley Hill, C) Many people will see this as a prison choice containing praise for the agents and at the same time the seeds of their own destruction. This decision is purely a dogmatic one taken for doctrinaire reasons.

Mr Raison: It will be seen as a sensible development plan for the future and one capable of making the best use of the skills and resources at present embodied in the Crown Agents.

Mr Anthony Nelson (Chichester, C) said there was abundant evidence not only that privatization was long overdue but that the Crown Agents over a period of years had let the Crown down.

Mr Raison: There have been particular difficulties in Brunei. The difficulty reported today in the press is simply due to a misunderstanding. I hope that can be resolved. I have no doubt that our decision to reorganize with a view to privatization is right and I hope that can be brought about before long.



Robertson: Unnecessary and damaging threat

Colliery incident condemned as disgraceful

NCB CHAIRMAN

The incident the previous day at Ellington Colliery, Northumberland, in which Mr Ian MacGregor, the 71-year-old chairman of the National Coal Board, was knocked to the ground, was disgraceful, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions. Most miners would, she added, condemn it.

Mr Kinnoch, Leader of the Opposition, later said he had spoken to Mr MacGregor and the Northumberland police. The Prime Minister and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, were trying to make mischief out of a deeply regrettable accident.

The incident was referred to by Mr Alan Bethel (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L), in whose constituency the colliery is situated. He said it caused deep concern to many of his constituents, including large numbers of miners who shared the deep sense of frustration of other miners in the Northumberland coalfield.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government's

because of closures but who did not see that violence and disorder was the answer.

Did Mrs Thatcher also deplore the comments of the area secretary, unlike those of the lodge officials? A badly organized protest was allowed by the area organizer to get out of hand.

Mrs Thatcher: I join with him in condemning the incident; it was a disgraceful accident and most miners will condemn it. I share his repulsion. I am sorry Mr Kinnoch chose not to condemn it in his choice of questions earlier.

Mr John Ryman (Blyth Valley, Lab): Could the Prime Minister reconsider her complacent attitude towards jobs and appreciate that as a result of the ferocious campaign by the NCB, dozens of pits in the North East are threatened with redundancies and closure?

The Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) and Mr MacGregor have flatly refused to listen to representations on behalf of the men.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government's

record on putting investment into the coal industry is outstanding and exceeds the Plan for Coal. The Government has more than honoured its promise. It demonstrates that the Government and Mr MacGregor have faith in the future of the coal industry.

● Later, on a point of order, Mr Kinnoch said that within minutes of being told of the incident in Northumberland yesterday he spoke to Mr MacGregor's office to inquire about his welfare.

I shared the concern of everybody (he said). I spoke to Mr MacGregor personally this morning. I have checked the details of the incident with the Northumberland police and I have come to the conclusion that this was a deeply regrettable accident.

Both the Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) and now the Prime Minister are simply trying to make mischief out of what was a regrettable accident, and not a display of use by senior members of the Government.

Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP,

then rose on a point of order, said it was an intolerable act of defiance of the Leader of the Opposition to be allowed to make a statement.

Amid loud heckling from both Labour and Conservative benches, Dr Owen said the Leader of the House (Mr John Biffen) refused to make a statement on the Northumberland incident yesterday and the letter yesterday by the Minister of State, Home Office (Mr Douglas Hurd) did not contain any of what was stated by Mr Brittan and Mrs Thatcher.

There had been no opportunity to raise the issue in the House. The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) replied that there were questions on which he could not rule.

Following further attempts by Dr Owen to make his point of order heard above continuous interruptions, the Speaker said: Had I anticipated what Mr Kinnoch was going to say perhaps I should not have allowed it. We ought not to have a question time extension of question time.

Decision on GCHQ is right

PMS QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, announced that the Government's decision on the future of GCHQ was right.

It was the right decision. The majority of the people in GCHQ had accepted that majority increases day by day.

Mr Kinnoch: None of that explains the long delays or utterly incompetent way the Government is trying to deal with it.

We are not dealing with the issue of democracy, liberty or efficiency, or security, by issues of personal vanity (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I note how lightly he chooses to treat issues of national security.

Mr Charles Ousleyman (Woking, C): Most MPs and most people take the view that it is the responsibility of the Government to see that the requirements of national security are met. It is not that of trade unions and not that of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mrs Thatcher: It is a heavy responsibility and the way we have chosen to discharge it is the right one.

for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, has been in Paris this morning and has made vigorous representations to the French Government about the plight of our lorry drivers.

Our consular staff in the worst area has been increased by people going there from Paris. They are lending money to lorry drivers to enable them to purchase the things that they need drivers wish to stay with their families, but we have had a request from one group to be repatriated. What can we do about it is being urgently considered.

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Mrs Thatcher: It is a heavy responsibility and the way we have chosen to discharge it is the right one.

Community and because of the so-called inquiry into the privileges of British agriculture.

Will she explain exactly the position and express her confidence in an industry which has served this country well?

Mrs Thatcher: The Government is determined to reduce the surplus produced under the CAP. The reason for that is well understood by all farmers throughout the Community. We all recognize that it will cause painful adjustments, but we realize that it has to come about.

The Government also believes that rural areas need a new type of support which is offered by every western industrial country to its agriculture.

In spite of reports to the contrary, we do not propose to reopen the question of rating of agricultural land and buildings.

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Miss Maynard not IRA supporter

TERRORISM

Miss Joan Maynard (Sheffield, Brightside, C) asserted in the Commons that she was not a supporter of the IRA. But when she said she was not in favour of terrorism "on either side", Conservative MPs cried "slime" and "Oh".

Miss Maynard, reacting to a comment by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who said during questions on Ulster that remarks she had made about the IRA were unhelpful.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) had asked Mr Prior to reject Miss Maynard's views.

Miss Maynard: In view of that accusation, there was misrepresentation. I do not know if he knows that. In one newspaper there was at least an untrue statement.

I repeat what I have said before, that I am not in favour of violence here or anywhere else. I have certainly never been and am not now a supporter of the IRA or of any other warring groups in that unhappy country.

Mr Prior: I hope, in that case, that she will go one step further and say she is not in favour of terrorism and does not believe they are freedom fighters.

Miss Maynard: I am not in favour of terrorism but I am not in favour of it on either side.

The Prime Minister will not be visiting Chesterfield, but took the opportunity of a request that she should do so, to condemn Mr Neil Kinnoch's speech on Monday as thoroughly irresponsible, and to commend a comment by Mr John Taylor (Strangford, DUP) that the

people of Northern Ireland saw the murder of a British Army sergeant there as the act of terrorists and not of freedom fighters.

Mr John Heddle (Mid Staffordshire, C), who had asked if Mrs Thatcher would visit Chesterfield, referred to Mr Kinnoch's speech calling for the abolition of Britain's nuclear defences (Labour cheers and Conservative protests).

He went on: On that same day, one of Mr Benn's even closer Parliamentary friends said that the IRA were the only terrorists. The moderate majority in Chesterfield would rather be governed by a party dedicated to peace through strength.

Mrs Thatcher: I saw the speech. Mr Kinnoch's comments were thoroughly irresponsible and even further from the left than the manifesto at the last election.

Government policy on defence is the only sure and effective defence for this country and the only guarantee for peace with freedom and justice.

Mr Taylor: Will the Prime Minister assure the people of Chesterfield that the people of Northern Ireland consider that those responsible for the murder of a British Army sergeant two days ago should be terrorists and not freedom fighters? (Cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: I warmly endorse what he says and thank him for it.

The winding up of an historical curiosity

PENSIONS

The Pensions Commutation Bill, which dissolves the Pensions Commutation Board and transfers to the Secretary of State for Defence its work of dealing with applications to commute some types of pensions into lump sum payments, was read a second time in the Commons and passed its remaining stages.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, moved the second reading, said almost all applications came from retired officers of the armed forces, though some civilians receiving pensions given for loss of office before 1972 were also entitled to apply.

When the board was established in 1969, commutation decisions were much more difficult and potentially more controversial than they were now. In more years, with a mass of published information about the likely effects on life expectancy of various medical conditions, much of the board's work had become routine.

The board had become something of a historical curiosity. The Bill was entirely an administrative procedure and did not affect a potential applicant's rights nor the amount of money he was likely to receive.

Applicants for commutation were charged a fee related to the costs of providing the service, and the changes would reduce administrative costs. This would benefit applicants. The Office of Pensions had been consulted and had not objected.

The board was dealing with 1,000 applications each year. These involved lump sum payments of about £20m a year. Commutation decisions were taken in accordance

with tables drawn up by the Government Actuary. Most applicants received the full amount.

Dr Connagh McDermott, Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said they accepted that the board had become an anachronism, set up in Victorian times.

Mr Michael Stern (Bristol North West, C) said he welcomed the Bill in the limited terms in which it had been introduced. But he had hoped the opportunity would have been taken to bring the whole scheme out of the 1870s rather than merely the administration of it. This was a shame. The processes by which retired officers applied for commutation of pensions would remain firmly rooted in the 1870s and bear no comparison to the processes by which, under normal commercial and private occupation pension schemes, similar commutations were dealt with.

● The Merchant Shipping Bill passed its remaining stages in the Commons.

Consular help for drivers

Britain's consular staff are doing everything possible to see that lorry drivers from this country who are trapped in the French lorry blockade are properly looked after, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, stated.

Mr John Stokes (Falkirk, C) and Mr Charles Ousleyman (Woking, C) had asked: Will she live time today to consider the plight of British lorry drivers in France? Will she make a direct personal intervention with President Mitterrand in her best Frenchman manner?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Raymond Whitney, Under-Secretary of State

Absentees from NI Assembly

The Northern Ireland Assembly could not continue indefinitely unless people took part in it, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during Commons questions on Ulster.

Mr Peter Robbison (Belfast, East, DUP) had asked if Mr Prior would welcome the return to the Assembly of four members who had been boycotting it.

Does Mr Prior believe (he asked) that their return or the absence of the rest of their colleagues affects the future of the Assembly?

Mr Prior told him: I can find any other way of making the work of the Assembly, even in Phase 1, more

effective by the greater participation of ministers and so on, I will be only too happy.

At no point returning to it, I shall not be satisfied until everyone is attending the Assembly who was elected to it. That may still be some way off. But meanwhile we have to go on with the assembly as it is, though it cannot continue indefinitely unless people take part.

Mr Prior also said: we believe, and I think it is generally recognized in the country as a whole, that it is far easier to bring down institutions than it is to create them.

Nothing has been put forward in Northern Ireland which in any way comes near the success of the assembly.

Nothing has been put forward in Northern Ireland which in any way comes near the success of the assembly.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab): Are the absentee members still entitled to receive their wages and expenses? And if so, how much is this stupid exercise costing the taxpayers?

Mr Prior: I do not recognise that

this is a stupid exercise. I cannot give figures of those who draw salaries and not attend, but we recognise that many of them are doing constituency work and carry out constituency functions.

Mr Robert Macdonald (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP): Earlier he indicated that the assembly could not continue indefinitely without the support of the two major constitutional parties in the north. How long can it continue?

Mr Prior: Not very long unless the constitutional parties do take part. That is why I hope they will do so.

Fowler reconsiders policy on general managers for NHS

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Service Correspondent

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, appears to be retreating from full implementation of the key recommendation of the Griffiths report, that general managers should be introduced throughout the National Health Service.

Health authorities are to be given between 12 and 18 months to finalize their response to the report and it is also no longer certain that the introduction of managers will be mandatory or even that the job will be full time.

Mr Fowler told the House of Commons select committee on social services recently that he is looking for "maximum flexibility to suit local circumstances" in introducing the changes.

He is considering whether general managers could be part-time, whether the job could be combined with an existing post in the district management team, whether there should be "a range of different solutions in different areas", and whether even the job title could vary.

Mr Fowler's attitude appears to contrast with that of Mr Roy Griffiths, author of the report, who is director and deputy chairman of Sainsbury's and of the NHS Supervisory Board.

Mr Griffiths said the report was not meant to be prescriptive and there would be a variety of methods for introducing it. But he urged the



Surgical spirit: Witch Hazel, an 11-year-old mare which might have been shot after dislocation, was treated with carbon fibre implant and six months later shows no sign of lameness, according to an article in The Veterinary Record.

Privatized services 'save £1m'

Health authorities are saving nearly £1m a year through privatization of domestic and laundry services in eight health authorities, Mr John Patten, Parliamentary Secretary for Health, said yesterday.

His comments came as health authorities complete their timetables for putting all their domestic, catering and laundry services out to tender between now and 1986.

Visiting Yorkshire Regional Health Authority in Harrogate yesterday, Mr Patten said the privatization of cleaning services at the new Clarendon Wing in Leeds was producing savings of £45,000 a year.

In Midway, savings of £1m over three years were promised on domestic services, while the privatization of domestic services at Redhill, Maidstone and Beckenham, and of laundry in North Warwickshire, Merton and North West Surrey were producing savings of more than £500,000 a year.

JP's may send more offenders to cells

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The controversial use by magistrates of police cells for people sentenced for drink-driving offences may be extended to other offences including theft and assault.

The Magistrates' Association's sentencing committee is examining the feasibility of using powers under the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1980, to impose sentences of up to four days in police cells for additional offences.

Mr Geoffrey Norman, the association's secretary, said: "The advantage of such sentences is that they are short and yet highly effective. Offenders are less likely to lose their job than if they went to prison and they do not come into contact with ordinary prison population."

The decision of magistrates at Grays, Essex, to send drink-driving offenders to custody in

Farmers grossly overuse pesticides, report claims

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Pesticides to control insects, weeds, and plant diseases are grossly overused, and are not subject to adequate legal safeguards according to a report published yesterday.

The report was prepared by Friends of the Earth for a campaigning group called the Pesticides Action Network, is supported by Oxfam, and the Soil Association. It describes the pesticides safety precautions scheme (PSPS), which is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture under guidance from an independent panel of scientists, as a toothless watchdog.

The report points out that there are no legal limits on the application of pesticides. Vegetables, for example, may receive up to 46 sprays in a season, yet residues in foodstuffs, which constitute a

Sikh claims race bias by golf club

A Sikh claimed yesterday that he was refused membership of a golf club on racial grounds. Mr Pramjit Singh Hothi, aged 40, a postal supervisor, is claiming damages from the Wrekin Golf Club, Shropshire, on the ground of discrimination. He alleges that he is the only applicant to be rejected in the past three years.

Mr Edward Coke, counsel for Mr Hothi, whose case is being funded by the Commission for Racial Equality, told Birmingham Crown Court yesterday: "According to the minutes, from 1981 until today on no other occasion has a ballot been requested and has anyone been blackballed."

The club denies discrimination and the hearing continues today.

year-old thoroughbred gelding, also with a left hind fetlock dislocation, was treated with carbon fibre implant and six months later shows no sign of lameness, according to an article in The Veterinary Record.

The operations were carried out by Mr Barry Edwards and Mr Leslie Vaughan at the Royal Veterinary College field station at North Mymms, Hertfordshire. "The standard of recovery achieved here is encouraging," they said.

In a similar operation, a 15-

British Museum reading room 'not under threat'

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The most famous library reading room in the world, the dome-shaped magnet of international scholars in the British Museum, Bloomsbury, will not be threatened immediately by the creation of a new home for the British Library, its chairman, Sir Frederick Dainton, said yesterday.

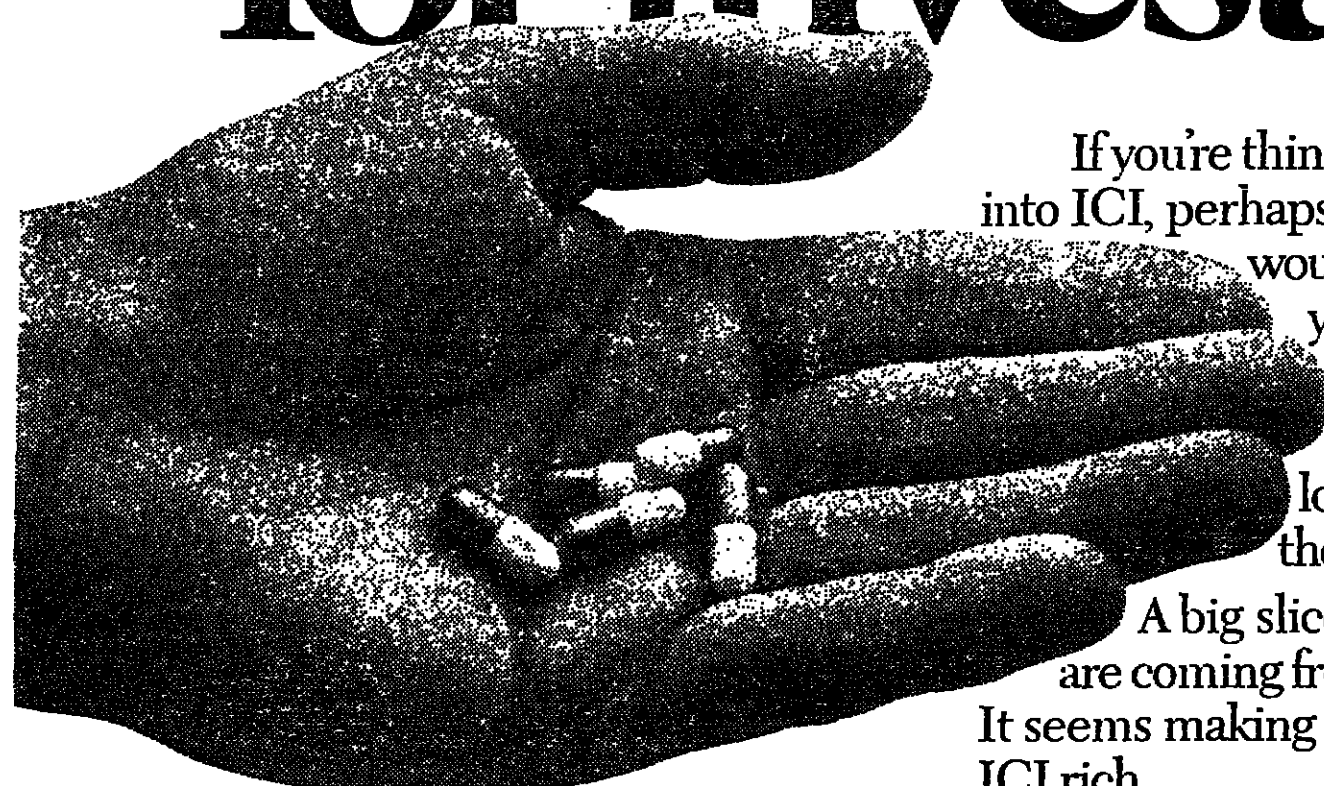
Academics have rallied to the defence of the room, which was designed in 1857 and is now run by the British Library, in the belief that the new building will be the death of the historic hall.

Last year, Lord Thomas of Swynerton, head of the Centre for Policy Studies and a trusted adviser to the Prime Minister, produced a pamphlet, *The Case for the Round Reading Room*, which attacked the planned extension next to St Pancras station and defended the facilities of the existing reading room.

Sir Frederick, unveiling the British Library's annual report yesterday, said that he thought no decision on the future of the reading room could be taken until the end of the century.

The new British Library building will contain 55 miles of shelving by the end of the decade, Sir Frederick said. It will act as a central headquarters for the library, which owns 163,000 volumes of manuscripts, nearly 1,400,000 cartographic items, and 1,400,000 music scores.

Cancer. Heart failure. Blindness. The Economist asks what the future has in store for investors in ICI.



If you're thinking of putting money into ICI, perhaps a chat with your doctor would be as useful as a trip to your stockbroker.

At the moment, the future of ICI's profits looks rather tied up with the future of mankind.

A big slice of their current profits are coming from drug sales in America. It seems making people better is making ICI rich.

Since there's little sign of a healthier world, despite its current preoccupation with running shoes and muesli, ICI are sensibly looking to the future with several interesting new drugs in research and development.

In a recent article, The Economist looked at these new drugs and analysed their therapeutic and commercial possibilities.

Of 3 major drugs being developed to fight cancer, diabetic blindness and heart failure, The Economist picked one as a potential life-saver and money-spinner.

It was an article you should have read. You'd have found it not amongst our business pages but under 'Science and Technology.'

Proof again (if it were needed) that with so much overlapping information you have to lap up as much of it as possible.

Every week, The Economist makes that not so much a task as a

pleasure. The writing is pithy, the punches rarely pulled and the coverage worldwide.

Even other journals find it easy to be enthusiastic:

"One need not agree with The Economist's views to admire the way they have been put. Good writing is its forte. On OPEC, for example:

'Hooray for the disarray in OPEC, and pray that it might be terminal. It probably won't be. False news of OPEC's impending death has erupted before as often as Mark Twain reckoned he gave up cigars.'"

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE.

If we've tempted you to try The Economist we suggest trying it for more than one week.

It's often an acquired taste and that may mean acquiring three or four issues. (A small investment for the pleasure and information you'll get in return.)

Over the weeks, study the letter pages and compare them with other celebrated journals. (You may agree that our readers are not only more worldly but more witty.)

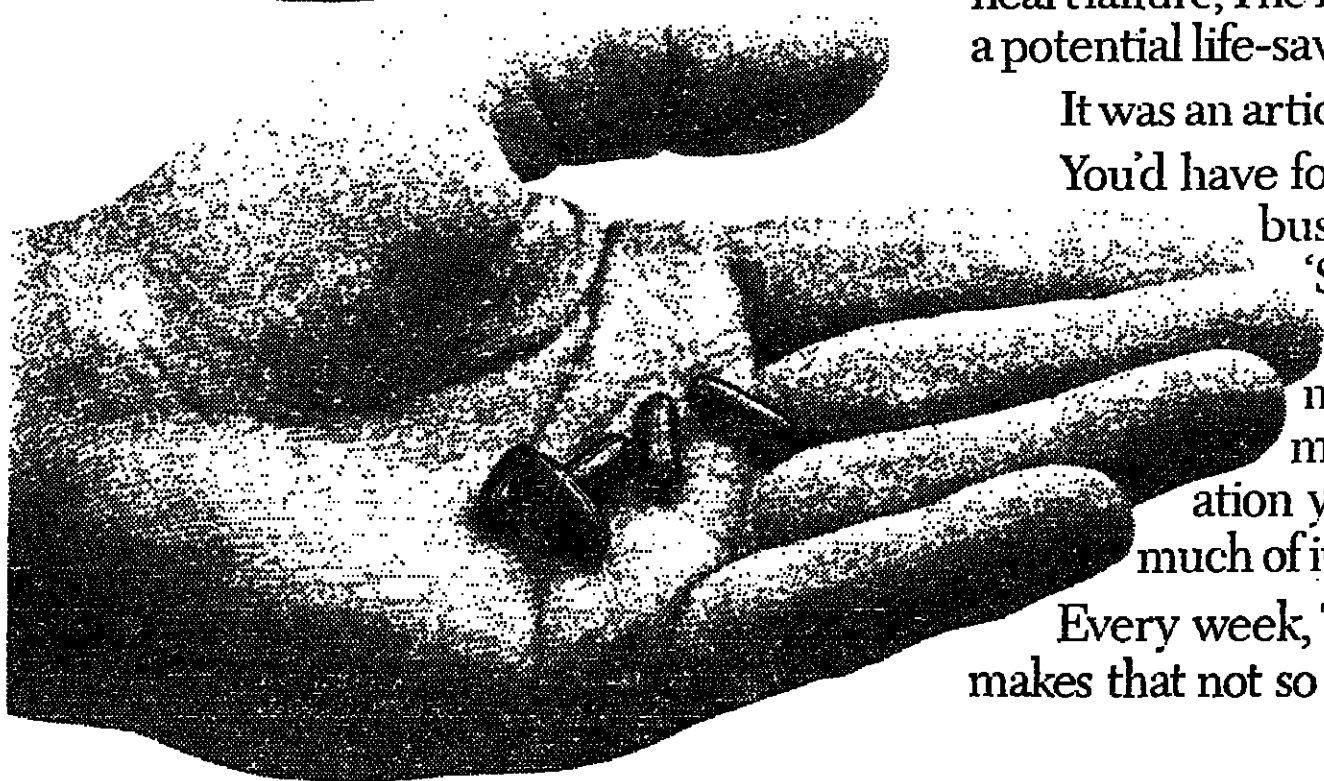
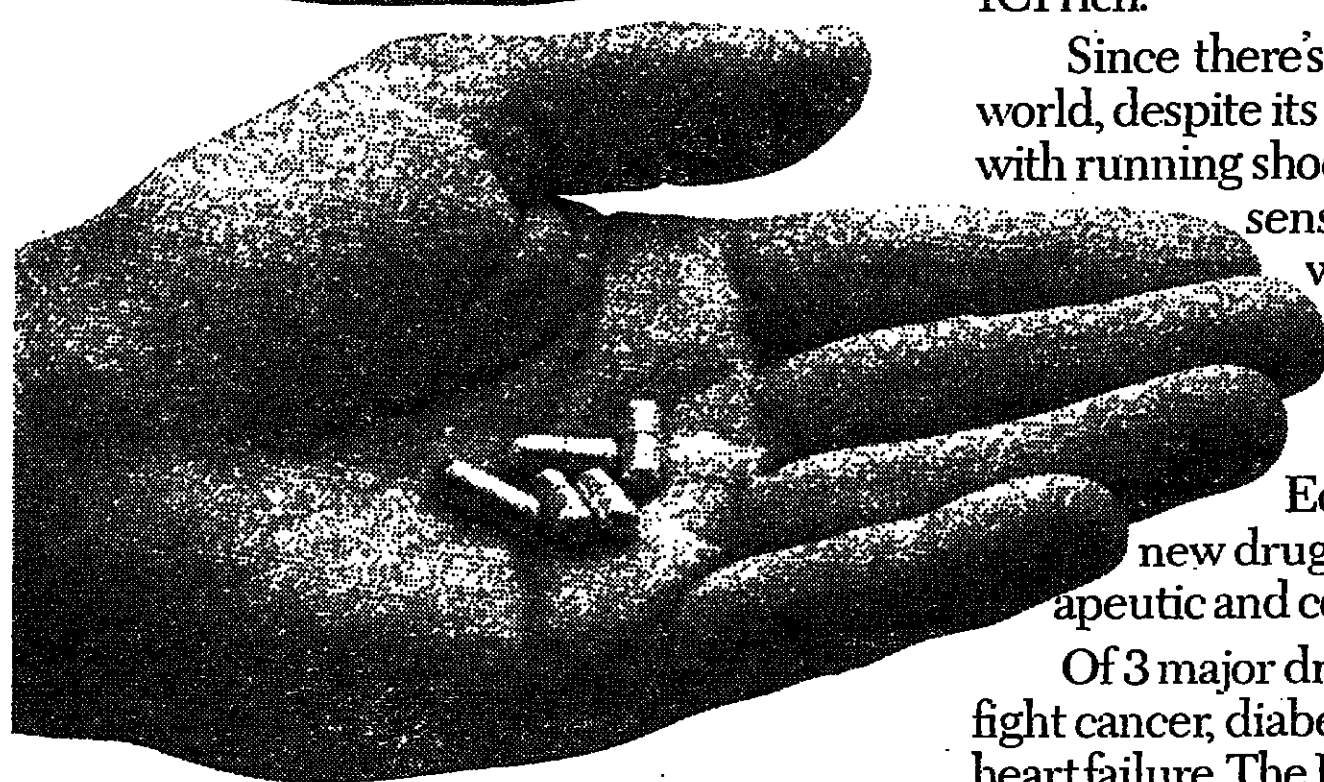
The book reviews will probably surprise you with their range and style.

The leaders will undoubtedly take some getting used to. They actually put forward ideas, solutions and opinions. They're often on the attack, seldom on the fence.

The fact is, there just isn't another publication that gives you such a global view of politics and business.

And happily, unlike most things that are good for you, this one is also nice to take.

The
Economist



Middle East: President at bay

Reagan on defensive as journalists give him rough ride on television

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

In 22 televised press conferences President Reagan has never looked so nervous, uncomfortable, defensive. The questioning bordered on the rude — was he a part-time president, a nominal leader, intellectually lazy, forgetful, providing "leadership by amnesia"?

On Lebanon he ranged through historical justification, refusing to acknowledge defeat of his policy. Even as he spoke American Marines were retreating from Beirut. He said their mission was not over, that they might be sent back, that the naval task force off Lebanon was there to stay.

Lebanon and leadership are key issues among those that mark Mr Reagan's road to four more years in the White House. He dismissed as "fiction" the suggestion that he is not in charge and waits too long to make decisions.

It was Mr Walter Mondale, his main Democratic rival for the presidency, who recently accused the President of governing by amnesia. "I'm surprised he knew what the word meant," Mr Reagan scoffed, a remark more barbed than his usual style.

He looked taken aback by the exceptional severity of the questioning. "As to that fiction about whether I sit back and let somebody else do the work — that's a lack of understanding of how our system has been working here," he said.

And as for Mr Mondale's attacks: "If that's all he has to talk about out there on the trail to his audiences, why, let him

go. I'm going to talk about the things we are doing and the things we intend to do."

Wednesday's night press conference will have delighted the Democrats. Mr Reagan is 73, already the oldest President America had had. His age and his leadership style are now firmly established as election issues. "I have never gone upstairs from that (Oval) office once that I have not carried an entire evening full of homework with me," he said defensively.

"And I could tell you about the sniping that takes place at so-called vacations like the four days I spent at the ranch. Presidents, I've learned, don't take vacations. They just get a change of scenery."

That particular vacation was taken immediately after he announced the Marine pullout. While he rode on horseback and cleared brush, the USS New Jersey was pounding nearly 300 16in one-ton shells into areas around Beirut while his Lebanon policy collapsed. It was not a four-day holiday — he arrived on the Tuesday and left on the Sunday.

The President became especially heated when somebody asked him to respond to suggestions that he does not spend enough time being President. "They don't know what they are talking about. And I almost made that a little more blunt right then but decided it would be unseemly if I did."

On Lebanon he said that "once the terrorist attacks started there was a way that we could really contribute to the original mission by staying

there as a target just bunkering down and waiting for further attacks."

His recollection of the chronology was awry — in fact it was four months after the terrorist attacks began that he ordered the troops out. Only three weeks ago he accused the Democrats of wanting to surrender by withdrawing the Marines.

He vigorously defended Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, who consistently urged the President to let the Marines stay in Beirut. Some Democrats have demanded the resignation of Mr Shultz, who himself took a four-day holiday to the Bahamas the day that the Marines began their rapid departure. Would Mr Reagan accept his resignation? "No I wouldn't," he said.

The President was asked to say something to the parents and widows of the 241 Marines who died in the massive bombing attack in Beirut on October 23. He said he had talked to many of the widows and parents "and I have been amazed at their attitude, which was one of complete confidence that it was a worthwhile mission."

He insisted that the United States was not turning tail in Lebanon. "We are not bugging out, we are just going to a little more defensible position."

On other issues Mr Reagan reiterated America's determination to keep open the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

He advocated a constitutional amendment — soon to be discussed in the Senate — to allow voluntary prayer in schools.

Militias in control

Baghdad-Basra road cut

Cargo craft links in space with Salyut-7



Along for the ride: A Lebanese boy swings on a machine gun mounted on a US Marine's Jeep leaving Beirut.

'Slander' drives banker to suicide

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Mr Yaakov Levinson, a banker and financial strongman in the Israeli labour movement, committed suicide yesterday morning by shooting himself on the rooftop patio of his home in a Tel Aviv suburb.

A few hours earlier, the police found a division had formed a team to examine transactions in Bank Hapoalim (the workers' bank) between 1979 and 1981, when Mr Levinson was chairman of the bank's board of directors and of its subsidiary, Ampal of New York, which was formed to mobilize capital for the labour movement.

Police suspicions were not officially disclosed, but media reports alleged that Mr Levinson, aged 52, had sold bank assets to Ampal at book value, which was considerably lower than their real worth. He resigned from the bank in 1981 but served in Ampal until the scandal broke last month.

In a suicide note, left under a telephone near the doorway of his home in the Ramat Gan, he wrote that former associates in the bank and the General Federation of Labour had intrigued against him, adding slander to slander to brand him for "crimes and mismanagement."

He said he had been perfectly clean, but his successor at the bank had told him: "They want you under a marble slab." He said he did not wish to spend the rest of his life fighting off slanders.

The bank's board began its secret investigation some 10 months ago on the basis of anonymous letters. On February 9 its legal adviser turned the material over to the Attorney General in Jerusalem, who transferred it the same day to the police.

The story surfaced last month in *Haolam Hazeh*, a weekly magazine. The editor, Mr Uri Avnery, said yesterday he had shown the material to Mr Levinson and invited his comments, but the banker had not offered convincing explanations and had merely made counter-charges against rivals in the organization.

Mr Levinson was born in Tel Aviv. He was considered a financial wizard as head of the Bank Hapoalim, which under his leadership grew quickly into one of the big three in the Israeli banking system. He seldom appeared in public, declined to be interviewed on television or radio, and was regarded as a mystery man who used his power behind the scenes.

Before the 1981 Israeli elections, which Labour lost, the party leadership proposed him as finance minister.

Death penalty supported in US Senate

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The US Senate has approved by 63 to 32 votes a bill to restore the death penalty for major federal crimes. Capital offences would include treason, espionage, kidnapping and attempts to assassinate the President.

However, the Bill, which has the Reagan Administration's backing, faces fierce opposition from opponents of capital punishment in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives.

The Senate action on Wednesday was the first time in a decade that either House of Congress had voted to legalize capital punishment for federal crimes after a 1972 Supreme Court ruling which effectively nullified death penalty laws then on the books.

Since then 38 states have legalized the death penalty

Iran claims 22 villages seized and vital highway severed

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Iran yesterday claimed to have achieved big gains in its latest offensive against Iraq, cutting the main road between Baghdad and Basra in several places.

If true, these advances would constitute a substantial setback for Iraq. For their part, the Iraqis claimed to have defeated an Iranian advance to the east of Basra.

The Iraqis claimed to have captured 22 Iraqi villages, as well as the town of Al Qurnah, just north of the confluence of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates. Al Qurnah is the largest centre of population so far claimed to have been captured by the Iraqis. It is about 15 miles from the border between the two countries.

If the Iraqis have effectively cut the road north from Basra, and driven a wedge

between the Iraqi Third and Fourth Corps, as they claim, it is likely to disrupt Iraq's logistic supplies very severely, and could lead to the isolating of Basra, which is Iraq's second largest town.

The official Iraqi news agency, INA, however, quoted the commander of the Fourth Iraqi Army Corps as denying that the Iraqis were in control of the highway between Basra and Amarah, and denied they had reached the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates.

Iraqi sources reported a heavy Iranian artillery barrage in the vicinity of Basra, but

claimed that an Iranian attack east of Basra had "ended with the total annihilation of the attacking forces and the victory of the Iraqi armed forces."

Sources in London yesterday were keeping an open mind about the truth of the claims and counter-claims by the two sides. If the Iranian claims prove to be true they will mark much the greatest penetration they have achieved in the war, which has lasted over three and a half years.

There is surprise in the West that Iraq appears to be taking little advantage of its superiority in air power and in tanks and artillery.

By fighting what appears to be a static infantry war, Iraq seems to be playing into the hands of the Iraqis, who have vastly greater resources of manpower.

US concerned at British sales to Teheran

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The United States has expressed concern privately to the British Government about the sale of non-lethal equipment and spare parts to Iran. The Americans fear that Britain may be unintentionally supplying equipment of military value.

Sir John Leahy, a deputy under secretary at the Foreign Office — the senior British official dealing with the Middle East — met several American officials at the State Department in Washington on Wednesday. The Americans emphasized their concern that the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini could be getting equipment and spares from Britain that will help in its war against Iraq.

The British have told the Americans that every item sold to Iran is subjected to a rigorous scrutiny. US officials, however, remain worried. As one senior source said: "As a purely illustrative example, would wing-tip pods for non-combat aircraft be regarded as lethal or non-lethal? In themselves they are not lethal but if they make an aircraft fly, what then?"

Sir John arrived in Washington on Tuesday from Paris, where he held consultations about the situation in Lebanon. He spent yesterday at the United Nations, principally for discussions about the crisis in Beirut. His discussions with Administration officials in Washington embraced the full range of Middle East issues, but American representations about the sale of British equipment to Iran took up much of his time.

Craxi and Kohl hold EEC talks

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, arrived here yesterday for talks with Chancellor Kohl aimed at averting a breakdown of the forthcoming European summit. Immediately after his departure this afternoon the Chancellor will fly to Paris to continue the discussion with President Mitterrand.

The talks with Signor Craxi, attended also by Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Foreign Minister, are part of regular consultations between Bonn and Rome. But Herr Kohl sees them as particularly important in his offensive to try to force a compromise at Brussels.

On Wednesday he called together the senior ministers most involved in the hectic discussions now going on about Europe. In a confidential session with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, and the Ministers of Finance, Economics and Agriculture, the Chancellor hammered out the maximum concessions his Government is prepared to make to its European partners, its stance on an agricultural price rise and how much Germany is prepared to pay into the EEC coffers.

There had been complaints that preparatory work by the Chancellor's office had lacked coordination.

Killer reprieved in South Africa

Pretoria (AFP) — A man said to have been hired by a British citizen, Mervyn Smith, to kill her husband was yesterday granted a reprieve from the gallows by President Marais Viljoen. Mrs Smith's death sentence had earlier been commuted.

The sentence on David Maguni, which had been upheld by the appeal court, was commuted to 30 years' imprisonment. According to the evidence, Mrs Smith asked her chauffeur to find someone to kill her husband, Mr Roger Smith, who was later found stabbed to death.

Brazilians loot food stores

Sao Paulo — Mobs of up to 2,000 have stripped dozens of Ministry of Agriculture and other food stores in the northern state of Ceara in the past few weeks, as the rains failed for the fifth year running. The state capital of Fortaleza, where almost two million people live, or have taken refuge, has only enough water for another 40 days, despite strict rationing.

Hongkong date

Peking (AFP) — Chinese and British negotiators wound up their latest round of talks here on the future of Hongkong at a joint statement that the session has been "useful and constructive." The next round will be on March 16 and 17 in Peking.

New York blast

New York (AP) — Terrorists hurled three bombs into the grounds of a Soviet residential compound in the Bronx, setting a diplomat's car on fire. A militant Jewish group claimed responsibility.

Danish vote

Copenhagen — Denmark's recently-elected Conservative-Liberal minority coalition cleared its first big hurdle of the new session yesterday when Parliament belatedly passed its austerity Finance Bill by 79 votes to 27.

Lima attack

Lima (AP) — Shining Path guerrillas hurled explosives at the Lima home of the president of Peru's Senate, Senator Ricardo Montegudo, seriously damaging the residence but causing no injuries.

\$850,000 dress

Tokyo (AP) — A wedding dress embroidered with diamonds and pearls worth an estimated \$850,000 was modeled here at a bridal collection show.

Defectors take over in Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

With Israeli jets flying high over Beirut on their way yet again to bomb around the town of Bhamdoun above Beirut, Muslim units of the Lebanese Army's Sixth Brigade, who defected to the Shia Muslim militias when the Government Army broke apart earlier this month, moved back onto the streets of the west of the city yesterday.

Immaculately dressed in combat fatigues, fully armed and driving armoured personnel carriers and tanks.

Only a lonely truck carrying Amal gunmen was there behind each convoy to betray just how really was in command of the soldiers.

Along the Corniche and the beachside at Ras-el-Ek-Baida, pedestrians were too busy waving at the soldiers something they would never have done when the troops were under President Amin Gemayel's command — to notice the high silver shapes of the Israeli aircraft or the brown smoke that began to drift up from the mountains around Bhamdoun at lunchtime.

The explosions could be heard far away and the Israelis later claimed that they had bombed Palestinian positions, although the Druze "Voice of the Mountain" radio station alleged later that Lebanese government troops had opened an artillery bombardment on the Druze in the town at the same time as the air raids.

Declaring that they were the "National Army" one officer even declared himself to be a member of a "People's Army" — the appearance of anti-Government Lebanese troops, claiming to be as patriotic as their Christian colleagues in the Army on the other side of the front line in Beirut, has at last consecrated the break-up of Government forces in Lebanon.

If President Gemayel orders Christian troops of the Army to recapture west Beirut, they will now have to fight their Muslim opposite numbers in the same uniforms and in some cases using identical weapons.

The Muslim soldiers were also intended to demonstrate to the population that Mr Nabih Berri, the Shia Muslim Amal leader, wants to maintain authority in west Beirut and — even more important — to portray that authority as legitimate.

Christian troops aided by Christian militias control east Beirut. Now Muslim troops aided by Muslim militias control west Beirut. Mr Gemayel will have understood the equation.

Israeli planes pound Lebanese targets

Continued from page 1

the Palestinians who fought alongside them in the recent rout of the Lebanese Army.

Despite firm denials from many Western observers in Beirut, Israeli military intelligence, on whose assessments the latest raids are planned, is understood to have supplied the Chief of Staff with detailed information alleging that 7,000 Palestinian fighters are now based in various parts of Lebanon.

The Israelis appear unmoved by the denials from Western journalists and diplomats, insisting that 2,000 Palestinians (many of whom they claim are operating under cover) have now penetrated back into west Beirut, double the number last month. The army also estimates that 1,300 Palestinian "terrorists" are now based in the battered Lebanese port of Tripoli, between 2,300 and 2,700 in the Bekaa valley and 1,500 in the central Metn mountain region.

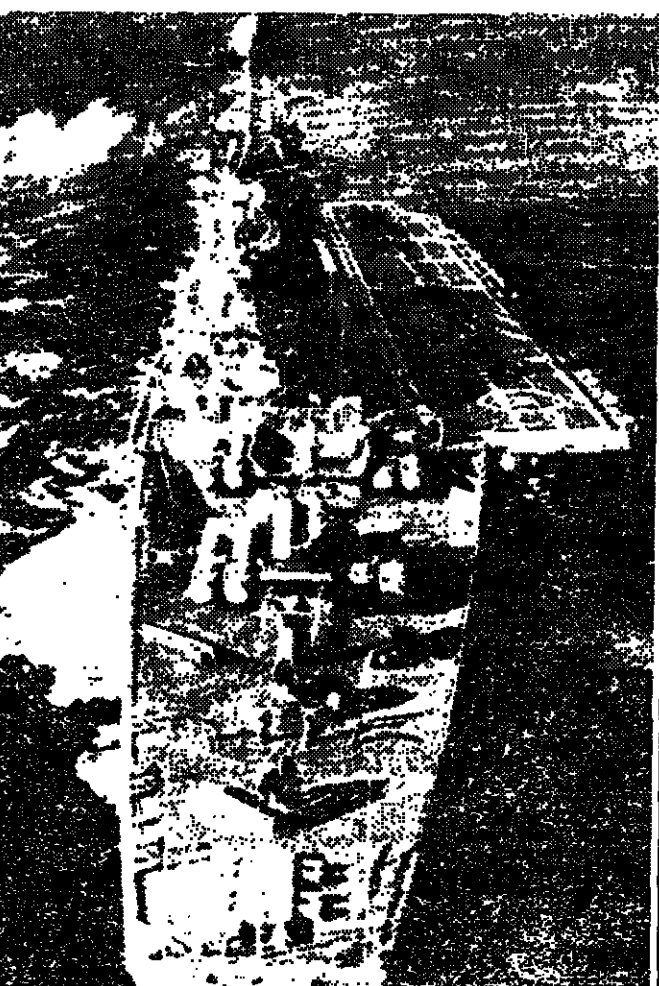
Their claims about the infiltration of west Beirut —

which have raised fears there of new air raids — are not backed with any evidence which they are prepared to make available to journalists.

Under questioning it is acknowledged that the figure is "an assessment" but it is claimed to be a conservative one.

He produced recent aerial photographs which showed that a Soviet-made T55 tank was stationed outside a building in Bhamdoun which he said was another base of the PFLP-GC, led by Ahmed Jibril, the former officer in the Syrian Army regarded by Israel as the most effective Palestinian fighter now operating. One thousand of the alleged 7,000 guerrillas there are said by the Israelis to be his men.

As during the peak of the bombing of west Beirut in 1982, the Israeli military authorities are upset about how their latest actions in Lebanon are being reported by Western press men based in Beirut. They have singled out the British press for particular criticism.



Naval might: A US Navy photograph of the new Soviet aircraft carrier Novorossiysk cruising recently in the South China Sea. The Navy said the 43,000 ton Kiev Class carrier has about 35 aircraft and is armed with surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, Gatling-type guns and torpedoes.

Jakarta puts Fretilin rebels on trial

From Our Correspondent, Jakarta

In an apparent policy change, the Indonesian Government has begun trying members of the Fretilin resistance movement in civil courts on subversion charges, and has sentenced a total of 12 men to six to eight years imprisonment in the past three months.

Another 12 suspected Fretilin

members are reported to be awaiting trial in the East Timor capital of Dili. News of the first trial of five men in December reached Jakarta last month, and the official news agency, Antara, reported yesterday that another seven men, identified as school teachers, farmers and fishermen, had been sentenced.

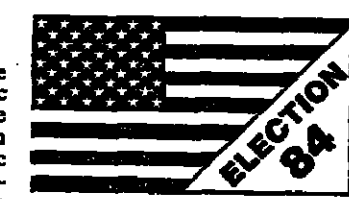
Antara said the seven had been charged with belonging to an illegal organization in Dili, and made no mention of Fretilin.

A Department of Justice spokesman declined comment yesterday on whether the civil trials constituted a policy change.

According to military sources, some 300 to 400 armed Fretilin rebels remain in the mountains of East Timor.

The Senate action on Wednesday was the first time in a decade that either House of Congress had voted to legalize capital punishment for federal crimes after a 1972 Supreme Court ruling which effectively nullified death penalty laws then on the books.

Since then 38 states have legalized the death penalty



Buoyant Mondale moves in for the kill

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Has Mr Walter Mondale already got the Democratic nomination sewn up? As the eight candidates embark on their final rounds of frenetic campaigning in New Hampshire, there is a growing feeling among political observers and in the various campaign headquarters that the race may be all over by next Wednesday.

Consider the present state of the contest. Mr Mondale won more votes in last Monday's Iowa caucus than all of his seven challengers combined. More important, he won 48 of the state's 50 elected delegates who will attend the party's nominating convention in July.

Of the 214 convention delegates who have so far expressed their candidate preferences, more than half — 127 of them — have declared themselves for Mr Mondale. This figure includes 76 of the 164 members of the House of Representatives who will be delegates in San Francisco.

By comparison, Senator John Glenn has only 17 confirmed delegates and Senator Gary Hart, who came second in Iowa, a mere six.

showing him as firmly in first place as he was in Iowa. By all accounts his organization there is every bit as efficient as it was in Iowa. And by the time voting takes place he will have spent the maximum allowed under Federal Election Commission rules.

Although New Hampshire Democrats are more conservative than they are in Iowa, it is hard to see Mr Mondale being knocked from his front-runner position, although he is not expected to win by such a large margin as he did on Monday.

If he does come first he will then enter the next, crucial stage of the race, when a cluster of 18 states hold primaries and caucuses over three weeks, as the overwhelming favourite.

The key contests during this period will be in the South and in Massachusetts. The South was considered the region where Senator Glenn had the best chance of catching up with Mr Mondale. But unless the former astronaut can reignite his campaign in New Hampshire, which seems increasingly unlikely, the trouncing which he suffered on Monday is certain to undermine his credibility among voters in Georgia.

Mr Mondale enters next Tuesday's primary in New Hampshire with the polls

Alabama and Florida on March 13, which has become known as "Super Tuesday".

Senator Glenn's chances in liberal Massachusetts, the only state which voted with Mr McGovern in 1972, were never rated highly. The only real issue there is whether supporters of Senator Edward Kennedy will throw their lot in with Mr Mondale or opt for Mr McGovern or Senator Hart instead.

Is there anything that can derail Mr Mondale? Probably not, although Senator Hart believes that a strong second placing by himself in New Hampshire would enhance his credibility as an alternative to the former Vice-President.

Although his organization is weak in the South, Senator Hart's staff believe there is still time to halt the Mondale juggernaut on "Super Tuesday". They expect the Rev Jesse Jackson to capture most of the black vote which might have otherwise gone to Mr Mondale, and that Mr Reubin Askew, the former Governor of Florida, will run ahead of Mr Mondale in his home state.

Spectrum, page 8

British lawyers seek end to ban on defending Grenada accused

By Our Foreign Staff

Fearing that those charged with the murder in October of Maurice Bishop, Grenadian Prime Minister, are being denied an expert defence, a foreign legal team, including Lord Gifford, QC, has appealed against the Grenadian High Court's refusal this week to allow British lawyers to represent the accused.

"Grenadian lawyers will not act for the detainees," Lord Gifford told *The Times* yesterday from Grenada, after the 18 suspects charged so far had appeared handcuffed in a heavily-guarded court on Wednesday, as an angry crowd of 600 outside chanted: "Hang them all", and "murderer, murderer".

Grenada's lawyers fear being associated with the views of the accused, the British barrister said. Thirty-eight men and women are being held in Richmond Hill prison in connection with last autumn's coup and the murders of Bishop, three of his ministers and four officials.

Seven former members of the Army are charged with the murders, while others are charged with conspiracy under a 1980 terrorism law.

Those accused of conspiracy include Mr Bernard Coard, the former Deputy Prime Minister and Bishop's rival. Their cases stand adjourned until April.

All 38 detainees are being represented by Miss Jacqueline Samuels-Brown, a Jamaican lawyer who under Grenadian law is permitted to practice in Grenada. The High Court has ruled that this law implicitly excludes non-Caribbean lawyers from acting in the island.

The Appeal Court will not hear Lord Gifford's appeal against this ruling until May. In the meantime, Lord Gifford said, the prison governor, Mr Lionel Maloney of Barbados,

has further restricted Miss Samuels-Brown's access to the accused. She now can see her 38 clients only three days a week for a total of 30 minutes each day.

Lord Gifford, Miss Samuels-Brown and Miss Sarah Burton, a London solicitor, are "discussing what further steps can be taken to ensure a full defence," he said. The British are being sponsored by the London Committee for Human Rights in Grenada. British officials in Grenada are also monitoring the judicial process.

The trial of those alleged to have been involved in the shooting of Mr Bishop and his friends and supporters will take place at the small assize court in St George's. But Grenada is bankrupt - it can barely afford to pay its civil servants, teachers and police - and needs assistance to meet the expense of a trial.

Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the interim administration, said he hoped that a Grenadian lawyer, now working for the Canadian Government, will be lent by the Canadians to take up the post of director of prosecutions, and that a British barrister will be paid by the Commonwealth to lead the prosecuting team. The Barbados Bar Society has also promised assistance.

Along with the difficulties of collecting evidence and framing charges, and finding ways to finance the trial, there is another complication. Grenadians are anxious to see the detainees tried, but a trial could be lengthy and a rouser of strong feelings. The Government does not want it to clash with the election promised for later this year.

Hint of solution to Cambodia problem

From David Watts, Bandar Seri Bagawan, Brunei

Vietnam now appears as eager as the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) to get out of the Cambodian dilemma.

But Hanoi has yet to show its hand, according to General Benny Murdani, Chief of Staff of the Indonesian armed forces, who recently visited Vietnam.

The principle clue that Hanoi may be ready to consider an accommodation is that the Vietnamese Army has not launched its annual dry-season offensive against the Cambodian resistance this year. The attack usually comes as soon as the monsoon rains cease and the battlefield advantage swings to conventional tactics.

The Vietnamese have held back in spite of some striking operational successes claimed by the Khmer Rouge in recent weeks, including the taking and temporary holding of two towns in Battambang province.

General Murdani, who has visited Vietnam in the past as the personal emissary of President Suharto, caused consternation when he said in Hanoi that he did not consider Vietnam a threat to South-East Asia, the cornerstone of Asean's demand for the withdrawal of Vietnam's 180,000 troops has always been that its presence in

Cambodia threatened Thailand.

The general told *The Times* yesterday that his remarks did not imply that he was happy with the continued presence of Vietnam's men in Cambodia. He maintained that Asean's diplomatic position remained firmly behind Vietnam's withdrawal and the holding of elections, but there have been signs of flexibility since last year's non-aligned meeting in Delhi.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister, who, like General Murdani, is attending Brunei's National Day celebrations, said there were prospects for progress when the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, visits both Indonesia and Australia next month.

Australia, under the Labour Government, has been pursuing a role as broker between Asean and Vietnam. Along with the Belgians the Australians appealed to Hanoi not to attack the Cambodian guerrillas this year.

General Murdani has invited the Vietnamese to appoint a military attaché in Jakarta, and called on his Vietnamese counterpart, General Van Tien Dung, to visit Indonesia.

David the 'bubble boy' dies after two weeks of freedom



David, the 12-year-old boy who spent almost all his life in a germ-free 'bubble', has died in hospital in Houston, Texas.

He is shown above at the ages of three, six and twelve.

He was born with no immunity to disease, and died on Wednesday night of complications

apparently caused by a transplant of bone marrow last October from his sister Katherine, aged 15.

David was released from his sterile quarters two weeks ago. He had fallen ill for the first time in his life and needed special treatment for fever. He then suffered intestinal bleeding and a stomach ulcer. His condition became critical after

fluid had to be drained from around his heart and lungs.

He was known only as David to protect his family's privacy, and spent most of his life in Houston's Texas Children's Hospital. In recent years he was able to live at home in a specially sealed room where he had school lessons over closed-circuit television.

Basque election challenges González policies

From Richard Wigg, Vitoria

In the Basque country, February is proving a cruel month for Spain's 14-month-old Socialist government. The unexpectedly long honeymoon is over as a general election in this stubbornly autonomous region on Sunday challenges the González government's handling of a severe local economic crisis and of the endemic terrorist problem.

While Madrid puts overriding emphasis on combating Eia, Basque opinion is clearly more worried by the depression. Proportionately, three times more jobs were lost here in an eight-year period than in Britain. Unemployment is running at more than 20 per cent and the figure will rise further if central government plans to restructure the Basque region's big industries such as steel and shipbuilding get under way this year.

The job shedding has aggravated the divisions between native-born Basques and the rest of the population. Exacerbated nationalism provides an additional ugly element to a bitterly fought campaign. Eia alone benefits from the depression to which its still widely levied "revolutionary tax" on Basque businessmen has significantly contributed.

Facing unkept election promises

Triumphant in the national election on the slogan promising the creation of 800,000 jobs throughout Spain, the Socialist Party now has to present itself with such unkept promises.

Facing Jose Maria Benegas, their rigid and not very inspiring leader in the Basque country, is Carlos Garaicoechea, the smiling and astute chief minister in the outgoing Basque autonomous government.

In the past four years the middle-of-the-road Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) which he leads, has recreated the apparatus of an autonomous government lost by the Basques at the end of the civil war.

Spain gives Verdi's Don Carlo a reprieve

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's bureaucracy has been obliged by public outcry to relent and allow Verdi's opera *Don Carlo* to be staged this summer with a star cast at the Escorial, the sixteenth-century royal palace and monastery built for King Philip II.

The highly unfavourable portrayal of the king, and his relations with his son, Don Carlos, caused the official body supervising all the royal estates to rule last November that staging the opera at the very site where the king had lived would be "unseemly". It would only contribute abroad to the so-called "black legend" of Spanish history, they maintained.

After suffering weeks of ridicule the body, whose chairman is the Marquis of Mondejar, the head of the royal household, relented at an emergency meeting on Wednesday night. They evidently realized that the previous stand was itself reviving past images of an obscurantist Spain.

If things go well, the Spanish tenor Jose Carreras will sing the title role in July in a production directed by Franco Zeffirelli, with the orchestra and chorus of La Scala, Milan conducted by Leonard Bernstein. Spanish state television hopes to sell the filmed opera afterwards around the world. One problem the organizers have apparently overlooked is that the exact site, the royal palace, presents serious acoustic problems.

Verdi's libretto is based on the Schiller's play, which highlights all the key elements of the black legend about Spain - besides the King himself, the Inquisition and the freedom struggle in Flanders with which Don Carlos is portrayed as sympathizing.

Cardinal Sin speaks out

Marcos warned of bloodshed threat

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The Philippines' Primate, Cardinal Jaime Sin, yesterday warned President Marcos that he risked nationwide violence and bloodshed if he did not agree to the conditions demanded by the opposition before they would contest May's elections for the National Assembly.

The united opposition's six-point proposal, issued last month, "to ensure free and honest elections" would strip Mr Marcos, who is 66, of much of his autocratic powers.

The opposition is also demanding wide-ranging electoral reforms (some of which have been granted) and a general amnesty for an estimated 900 political prisoners.

These demands are reasonable and within the power of Mr Marcos to grant, Cardinal Sin told a Rotary Club luncheon.

He said every Filipino had a right to clean elections, and to deny them this right was to commit an injustice.

"If we do not solve this problem through the ballot, I am just too afraid that we might solve it through violence. I would not like to see blood running in our streets," he said.

Cardinal Sin called on the people to vote in the elections despite a boycott call by some opposition groups after Mr Marcos failed to agree to their demands by February 14, three months before polling day.



Cardinal Sin: Plea to Philippine electors.

76 saved from oil rig in Atlantic

From John Best, Ottawa

The 76-member crew of a drilling rig was rescued from lifeboats in the North Atlantic yesterday, after being forced to abandon the platform late on Wednesday night.

The crew of the rig, Vinland, took to the boats when a blow-out occurred at a natural gas well off Sable Island, a 25-mile-long sand spit 175-miles east of Halifax.

In a blow-out, gas combined with mud and rock shoots up

Argentina's former air chief faces arrest

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, the former commander of the Argentine Air Force, faced probable arrest yesterday as he went before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces to give evidence on his role in the Falklands War.

His arrest would complete the detention of the members of the military junta which ordered the invasion of the Falklands on April 2, 1982 and set off the 14-week war which left more than 800 Argentine soldiers dead.

On Wednesday the Supreme Council ordered the arrest of Admiral Jorge Anaya, the former Navy commander, who was one of the early advocates of the invasion, but kept virtually all the Navy's ships out of action for fear of attack by British nuclear-powered submarines after the sinking of the cruiser, General Belgrano.

Admiral Anaya was being held yesterday at the Navy Mechanics' School in Buenos Aires, a site believed to have been used as a secret detention centre by the Navy during the military's campaign to exterminate left-wing dissidents in the 1970s.

The former President, General Leopoldo Galtieri, the third member of the junta which ordered the invasion, was arrested by the same military court on Tuesday, and is being held at the Campo de Mayo Army base on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

The Supreme Council is court-martialing General Galtieri, Admiral Anaya, Brigadier Lami Dozo and 11 other officers for their part in the ill-fated war, after a special military commission accused them of negligent planning, inadequate preparation and military and diplomatic bungling once the fighting began.

Although the court's proceedings are secret, a military source said it could reach a verdict in the cases of the three junta members between two weeks and a month from now.

The arrest of General Galtieri and his top commanders is simply a "preventive measure", the source said, based on a presumption that they are guilty of at least some of the crimes of which they are accused.

Possible delays in the Falklands War trials could arise from the fact that the Supreme Council, made up of three representatives each from the Army, Navy and Air Force, is already trying 10 senior military officers accused by President Raúl Alfonsín of responsibility for human rights atrocities under the military regime which stepped down last December.

Proceedings have already begun in the human rights trial, and the nine members of the first three military juntas to hold power (including General Galtieri) have been notified of the charges against them.

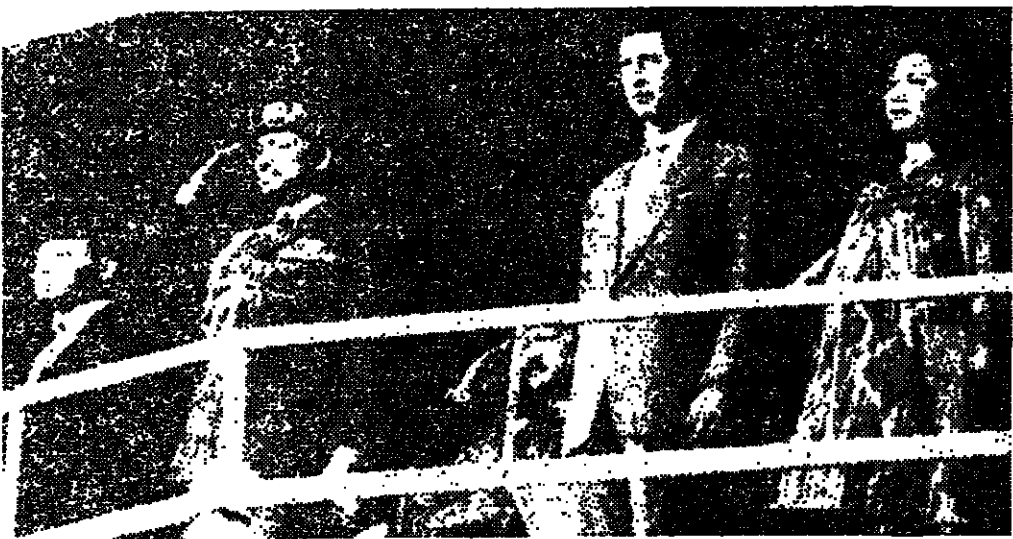
The Brunei party to end all parties

From Our Own Correspondent, Bandar Seri Bagawan, Brunei

Not since the fantasies of The Arabian Nights has there been anything quite like it. In a 350-acre palace, more than 4,000 guests celebrated independent Brunei's first National Day last night with a banquet to match the scale of the gold-domed building.

After a day in which he was treated as Brunei's most important guest of government representatives, the Prince of Wales joined kings and presidents from Malaysia to Pakistan in a celebration which is unlikely to be repeated.

Royalty and heads of state sat amid the palace's 16 acres of marble halls, with the lesser luminaries outside in warm bezzers, for the high point of Brunei's multi-million-pound national party. Thirteen vast crystal chandeliers hung over the top table where the Sultan, Sir Muda Hassanah Bolkiah, marked the re-emergence in



Solemn moment: The King of Brunei and the Prince of Wales at the celebrations.

full independence of the 400-year-old sultanate.

The day began early at the National Stadium. Journalists covering a rally of the majority of the country's population had to leave their hotels at 4.30 in the morning.

Prince Charles, in a grey suit and cream tie, took his place to the left of the Sultan, as the honoured guest though, hardly speaking, in Brunei's complex

four-tier protocol system he was out-ranked by the King of Malaysia to the Sultan's right.

The Prince sat next to Pengiran Hajia Mariam, the second of the Sultan's two wives, an attractive former air hostess in rich green Malay dress. She excitedly pointed out some of the finer points of the display, which was watched by about 50,000 Bruneians.

But the Sultan had another surprise. Not only did every senior foreign visitor have the use of a Rolls-Royce from the Sultan's personal stable of 110 cars, but he appeared in his latest acquisition from Derby, a long-wheel-base Rolls-Royce with six doors.

But then the Sultan did not have to ask the price. This year the Sultanate will earn about £3 billion in oil and gas revenues and spend half of it.

News agencies say the Army is being consulted by both states with a view to restoring peace. Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has told members of her party that the Government would not allow anyone to use a place of worship for stockpiling arms and harbouring people wanted by the authorities.

There are reports that Sikh extremists take shelter in

gurdwaras, Sikh temples, after killing Hindus.

The point that religious places were being used by terrorists was also made by President Giani Zail Singh. This part of his speech was reported to have been put in by the Government.

Mrs Gandhi has said that terrorists seemed to be getting the upper hand.

Colonels accused of influencing voters

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Salvadoran Army colonels have been accused of disobeying explicit directives from the Armed Forces High Command to stay out of politics and using their power to influence the outcome of the presidential election on March 25.

Leaders of El Salvador's biggest labour organization, the Popular Democratic Unity (UPD), which has 500,000 members, made this accusation on Wednesday, noting that officers had been ordered by the Armed Forces Chief of Staff - in a break with Salvadoran tradition - to keep their political views strictly to themselves during the electoral process. Labour spokesmen said at least five colonels were allegedly disobeying these instructions.

Independent political sources and labour spokesmen named Colonel Rolando Ramos, who is based in San Salvador and is a committed supporter of Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's right-wing Republican Nationalist Alliance (ARENA).

They claimed that Colonel Ramos's men had given youths in San Marcos, 18 miles west of the capital, the choice of joining the Army or becoming an active ARENA campaign worker.

An associate of Major D'Aubuisson, Colonel Mario Denis Moran, has also been accused of using his position as regional commander in the province of La Paz to influence the voting.

Colonel Moran is said to have changed his views and become a persuasive ally of the dark horse candidate in the elections, Dr Francisco Guerrero, of the National Conciliation Party (PCN).

The Mayor of the provincial capital of La Paz, Zacatecoluca, who is a PCN supporter, said Colonel Moran and other

officers were accompanying him on electoral campaign trips around the province. "We have close ties with the commanders", the Mayor said. He is a 14-year veteran of the PCN, a party of the Salvadoran establishment with a more restrained right-wing stance than ARENA.

Christian Democrats in Zacatecoluca say that local people have been intimidated by the colonel against voting for their candidate, Señor José Napoleón Duarte. "More than anything else the Army is anti-Christian Democrat," Don Guerrero said. Some officers against whom evidence of political participation has been collected are supporting the PCN. Others are for ARENA, but the Christian Democrats are almost universally reviled among the military because of the fear that Señor Duarte will carry out a purge in the manner of President Alfonsín in Argentina, if he comes to power.

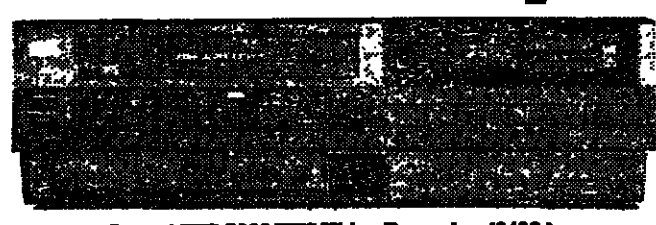
There is evidence, too, that ARENA is losing support among previously loyal military men fearful that a cut in US aid following a D'Aubuisson victory could hand military victory to the left-wing guerrillas and destroy the army as an institution.

The PCN is consequently emerging as a serious competitor for the right-wing vote.

Cameroon trial

Yaoundé (AFP) - Former Cameroon President Ahmadou Ahidjo is one of three people accused of plotting against the state in a trial which opened here. He is being tried in absentia, but two aides accused with him were in court.

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SPECTRUM

THE TIMES
GUIDE TO THE US PRIMARIES

Godfrey Hodgson traces changing fashions for primaries and caucuses in American elections and identifies (below) key dates and developments

The rise and fall of the presidential primary

The result of this week's Iowa precinct caucuses does more than establish Walter "Fritz" Mondale as the favourite to stand against Mr Reagan in November for the Democratic Party. It also illustrates how the complex rules for choosing presidential candidates are constantly changing, under the twin pressures of campaign strategy and the voracious need of the press and television for a new story.

Mr Mondale won almost 50 per cent of the votes on Monday night in Iowa, not in a primary election - though you might be forgiven for thinking so - but in a souped-up version of the device which primaries were invented to replace in the early years of this century: the caucus, or party meeting.

American presidential candidates are chosen by the two major parties at their nominating conventions. The convention delegates will be chosen over the next four months by two basic

methods, each of which has many variants.

In some states, they will be chosen in caucuses: in others they will be chosen in primary elections by either all voters in the states or all registered voters of each party. And the system has now spawned a hybrid between the caucus and the primary.

Primaries were first introduced in the Progressive Era of reform, in the early years of this century, as a way of making the choice of candidates more democratic (small d) and of breaking the power of the party bosses.

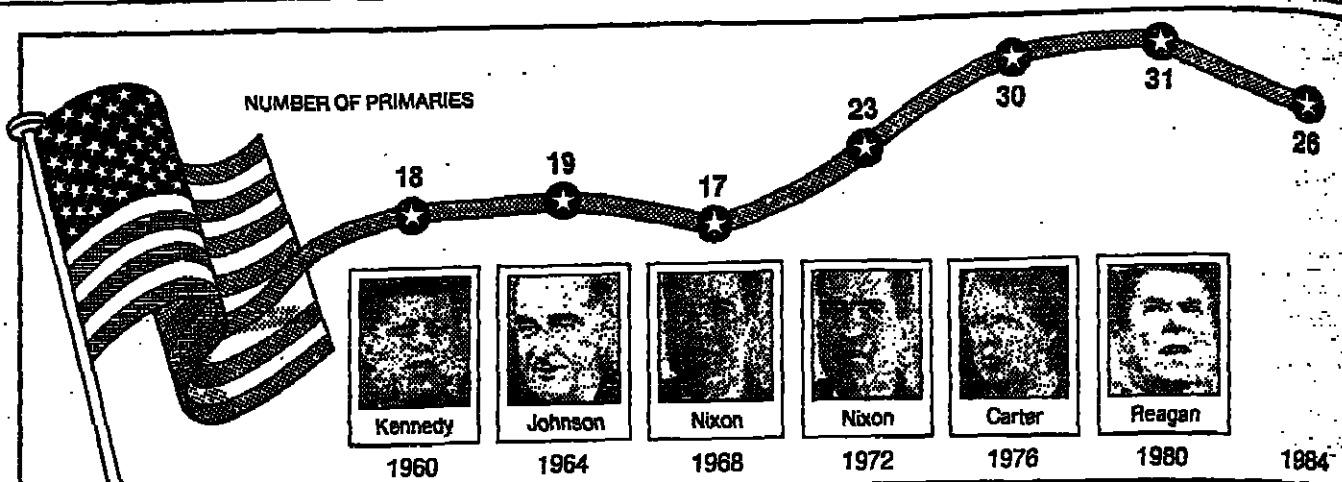
By the 1950s they were thought of as slightly quaint and old-fashioned. Harry Truman, Adlai Stevenson and Hubert Humphrey all had some contemptuous things to say about them.

The primary was revived by the political charisma of John F. Kennedy, and by the attention his 1960 cam-

paign attracted in the media. Most of all, it was the lush prose of Theodore H. White, in his best-seller, *The Making of the President 1960*, that created a primary.

The two primaries that mattered for Kennedy in 1960 were in Wisconsin and in West Virginia. The great question about Kennedy as candidate was whether the American voters were ready to accept a Roman Catholic president.

The Wisconsin primary was ominous for Kennedy because, although he won, he did well in districts with many Catholics and poorly in the strongly Protestant areas. So Kennedy had no alternative but to campaign frontally on the religious issue in West Virginia, where 95 per cent of the voters were Protestants. He did, he triumphed, and he went on to lay to rest the idea that a Roman Catholic could not lead the country.



For the next 20 years primaries looked like the modern, democratic way to choose delegates to the party conventions. Compared to caucuses, which were generally portrayed as sordid, old-fashioned and boss-ridden.

Then along came Jimmy Carter. He had a different point to prove: as a Southerner he needed to show that he could have national as well as merely regional appeal. No one from the Deep South had been president since the Civil War except Lyndon Johnson.

New Hampshire was not promising for Carter, and several of the next primaries in the calendar were in the South and would prove nothing. Yet Carter needed a flying start. So he and his young campaign strategist, Hamilton Jordan, hit on the idea of treating the Iowa precinct caucuses, before the New Hampshire primary, as if they were a primary.

Several thousand Democratic loyal-

ists would meet in every precinct in the state and choose their delegates to the convention. Carter quietly met them and put himself across. National newspapers such as the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* reported what he was doing. So when he came and easy first in the precinct caucuses, the television cameras were there to record it as a major political event.

It was the end of 20 years when primaries had been the focus of media attention. After 1960, and especially after 1968, they had grown rapidly in number. The latter years produced perhaps the most exciting primary campaign of all, with both Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy challenging the incumbent President Johnson in the primaries, not to mention Hubert Humphrey, the eventual candidate, who did not run in any primaries, or George Wallace, who ran as a third-party candidate.

After that, the number of states holding primaries grew quickly. There were 23 in 1972, 30 in 1976, and 31 in 1980. Four years ago, many political scientists might have predicted that by the end of the century virtually all convention delegates would be chosen in primaries.

But this year the number of primaries is down, to 26, and the number of caucuses is up, to 25. The number adds up to 51 because the District of Columbia counts as a state for this purpose.

Few caucuses will attract as many participants as the 84,000 who took part in Monday's Iowa decision. At that rate of participation, the difference between a primary and a caucus, once seen as antithetical, had almost withered away. It is just one little example of the influence the media now have on the American political system.

COUNTDOWN TO THE CONVENTIONS

The most important function of the primaries that begin with the vote in New Hampshire on February 28 is the self-evident one: to enable candidates to accumulate delegates committed to vote for them at the conventions. With Reagan assured of the Republican nomination, all interest will be focused on the Democrats.

But delegate-hunting is not the only purpose of the primaries for the candidates. There are plenty of other points to watch in the results between February 28 and the last primaries in California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and West Virginia on June 5.

Coalitions

The Iowa result would seem to have almost completely eliminated the former astronaut, Senator John Glenn of Ohio, previously thought to be Mondale's strongest rival. However, three liberal candidates, Senator Gary Hart of Colorado, former senator George McGovern of South Dakota, and Senator Alan Cranston of California won 34 per cent of the votes in Iowa against 49 per cent for Mondale.

If two of these candidates were to drop out, the survivor would inherit most of their support. So watch out for coalitions of candidates and for candidates dropping out. If, say McGovern and Cranston were to drop out, leaving Hart as the liberal standard-bearer, Mondale's position would be transformed: instead of being the champion of the left of the party against the conservative Glenn, he would find himself willingly as the more conservative candidate.

Gender gap

Early results will confirm whether or not Reagan is handicapped as much as polls have suggested by the "gender gap". In January 1981, when



Primary revival: John Kennedy capturing the Democratic nomination in 1960

Reagan became president, 54 per cent of men approved of him, according to the Gallup Poll; late last year his approval rate with men was still running at just over 50 per cent. Women were more likely to disapprove of him then, and they are now far more hostile: only 42 per cent women approved of him in late 1983, as against 48 per cent in early 1981.

The reason for Reagan's unpopularity with women, it appears from the polls, is not so much his attitude to women's issues (although the highly publicized resignation of the woman responsible for reviewing gender-discriminatory legislation in the Justice Department last year was only one of many incidents which have infuriated women's organizations). Women are more likely to be critical of the President because they oppose the President's military policies, and because many of them have been hurt by the administration's economic policy.

With women forming more than half the electorate, and with the same voting turn-out rate as men, a presidential candidate can afford to ignore them as Reagan has done.

Blacks

No postwar president comes even close to being as unpopular as Reagan with black voters.

In 1980 Reagan won only 3 per cent of the more than four million votes cast by blacks in the 11 Southern states. In the past, blacks, especially in the South, have been significantly less likely to register and to vote than whites. In those 11 states Reagan's margin of victory was less than the number of eligible blacks yet to register. But now blacks are registering in large numbers, and their turnout is approaching that of whites. This could be another danger signal for Reagan, whose economic policies have hurt blacks, a predominantly low-income group, and favoured high-income whites.

Predictions

Candidates in primaries (and those caucuses notified by the media) are judged not only in absolute but also in comparative terms: in other words not only by what proportion of the

vote they get, but also by whether they have done better or worse than predicted. In 1968, Eugene McCarthy did not win more votes than President Johnson. But the fact that he came so close and did far better than expected helped to put Johnson on the slide that ended with his withdrawal after another disappointing showing in Wisconsin. So how the media report a candidate's performance has a crucial influence on his standing, and therefore on his ability to continue to raise money for television advertising and other necessary expenditure.

Reform?

In the recent past there has been much criticism of the long drawn-out primary calendar. Critics argue that it favours well-financed candidates and gives them an unfair advantage, and suggest that there should be

a single national primary with all states voting on one day. Since that looks impracticable, it has also been suggested that primaries should be grouped together in regional primaries so that, for example, all Southern, Western, or New England states voting on the same day.

MAIN EVENTS

February 28 New Hampshire Primary Being the first state to hold a primary has been worth so much to New Hampshire, a relatively poor and obscure state, in both publicity and income from spending by candidates and television, that the state legislature has passed a law saying that New Hampshire will always have its primary before anyone else. Now Iowa has blunted New Hampshire's primary. But next week's primary will still be an important test for Mondale and the field.

March 4: Maine precinct caucuses (There have in fact already been precinct caucuses in half a dozen states before Iowa, all involving only Republicans, however.)

March 13: Primaries in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and for democrats abroad

Caucuses in Hawaii, Nevada, Oklahoma, and the state of Washington. "Fat Tuesday". This will be the first opportunity to see up large groups of delegates. Altogether 377 Democratic delegates will be chosen in primaries and another 170 in caucuses on the same day; 143 of those will be in Florida and 116 in Massachusetts.

March 14: Caucuses in Alaska, Delaware, North Dakota

March 17: Caucuses in Arkansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi and South Carolina. A big northern industrial state

with plenty of economic troubles. Michigan with 155 delegates. And a Southern regional group of caucuses with 196 delegates between them.

March 18 Primary in Puerto Rico

March 20 Illinois Primary

Minnesota caucus Illinois has 194 delegates, the fifth biggest block. It will also be a major test of black voting intentions, having more registered black voters than any other state. The first black candidate in history, the Rev Jesse Jackson, is a native son. Will blacks vote for him or for a white liberal?

March 24 Kansas caucuses

March 25 Montana caucuses

March 27 Connecticut primary

April 3 New York primary, Wisconsin primary

The second biggest state with 285 delegates. Intense media glare in the national press and network television's hometown. And Wisconsin, where Robert La Follette helped to introduce the primary, always a classic test of the Midwest's mood.

April 7 Louisiana primary

Arizona caucuses

April 24 Primaries in Pennsylvania and Vermont

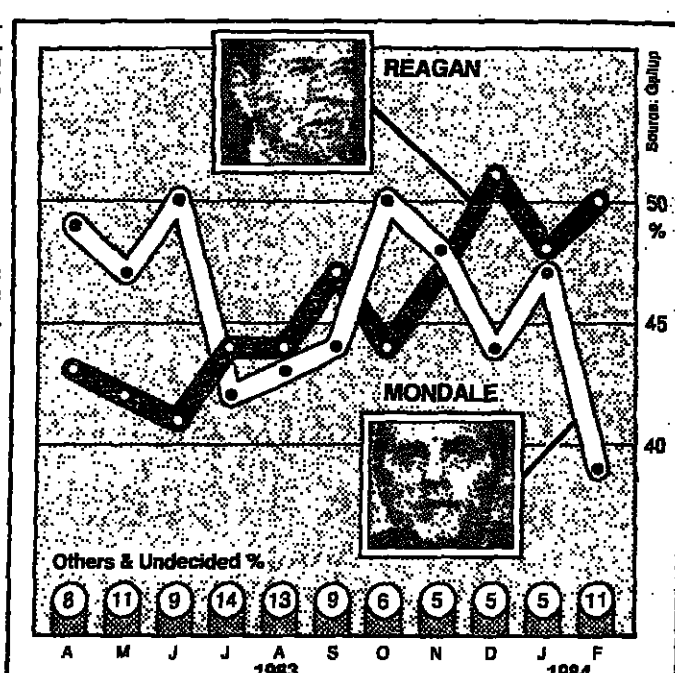
Pennsylvania is the fourth-biggest state, with lots of blacks, lots of ailing "smokestack" industries, lots of union members good Mondale country.

May 1 Primaries in District of Columbia, Tennessee

May 5 Texas precinct caucuses

Texas primary

The Texas primary is a non-



Run-up: Reagan vs Mondale in the pre-campaign opinion polls

binding "beauty contest primary". The caucuses are serious stuff to choose 200 delegates in the third most populous state where women, blacks and Hispanic-Americans are all asserting themselves, and where they succeeded in electing a Democratic governor in 1982.

May 7 Colorado precinct caucuses Will Senator Hart still be alive to pick up 51 home-state votes?

May 8 Primaries in Indiana, Maryland, North Carolina and Ohio

Indiana and Ohio, with 263 delegates between them, would have the makings of a regional mid-western primary if they could get Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin to join them. If Senator Glenn is not grounded by early May this would be ideal territory for a comeback, as these are conservative Democrats.

May 15 Nebraska and Oregon primaries

June 5 Primaries in California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and West Virginia

The number of delegates and the variety of states involved in this fastest of Tuesdays makes it a sort of shadow national primary. Altogether the states

voting on June 5 will send 558 delegates to San Francisco, 545 of them from California, the Golden State, alone.

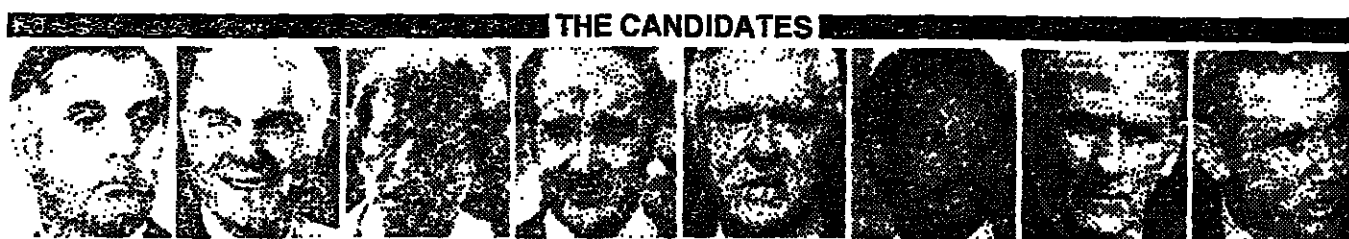
After the California primary, the various states will still have to choose "unpledged" delegates. These are 566 party officials, and senators or congressmen who are being chosen separately this year. This is to put right the consequences of the attempt to democratize the party by the McGovern commission in 1971.

As a result of efforts to improve representation of blacks, women and young people at the 1972 convention, many leading party figures, including Mayor Daley of Chicago and important union leaders, found they were not delegates. The effects were extremely divisive. This year the party is seeking to heal the old split between professionals and activists.

July 16 Democratic convention opens in San Francisco.

August 20 Republican convention opens in Dallas.

A revised edition of Godfrey Hodgson's book on the American presidency, *All Things to All Men*, is to be published by Penguin this summer.



Walter Mondale John Glenn Gary Hart George McGovern Ernest Hollings Jesse Jackson Alan Cranston Reubin Askew

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

● **Waiting for the word:** Bryan Appleyard watches Samuel Beckett at work

● **Fortunes at stake:** A glimpse inside London's gambling world

● **Pilgrimages:** Prayer wheels in Tibet; gastronomy in the Basque country

● **Sport:** Preview of rugby's John Player Cup

PLUS: News from home and abroad; Family Money on taxation and the single parent review of classical records; a critical guide to the week's arts; Values: Eating Out; Drink; In the Garden; Bridges; Chess and the prize crossword



From left, Bud Thorpe, Walter Aarons, Samuel Beckett at rehearsal in London

Can you always get your copy of The Times?

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Willst be discreet, not standing with the light behind?

You may have read in the newspapers that Prince Andrew has got a new girl friend, you probably thought to yourself at the time: I see that Prince Andrew has got a new girl friend. Or perhaps you thought: I wonder if there's any proper news in this damned newspaper. What you almost certainly didn't realize is that behind such a brief announcement lies an exhausting amount of royal ritual and ceremony, which must always take place the same way.

It starts with the age-old exchange between prince and proposed girl friend, which goes like this:
Prince: Willst thou be my girl friend?
Girl: I willst.
Prince: Dost promise to be discreet? To smile at the press? Not to stand around in thin dresses with the light behind?
Girl: I do.
Prince: Canst come and see my Mum some time next week?
Girl: Canst.
Prince: I now pronounce us prince and girl friend.
Girl: What about the bit about my not seeing your letters to the press?
Prince: There won't be any letters. I've learnt my lesson.

The prince then takes his new girl friend to see his mother a

the Palace. There is a rather touching ceremony at the entrance.

Guard: Who goes there?
Guard: The prince and who?
Prince: The prince's girl friend.
Guard: Advance, girl friend, and be recognized.
Prince: She's new, actually.
Guard: Blimey, it's all go round here.

The prince will then take his friend upstairs, unless this takes place at Sandringham, in which case they shall both don gum boots and go out into the kitchen garden or stables. Leading the girl friend by the hand, the prince shall then say:-

Prince: Hello, Mum, this is (here he shall use her name)....

Queen: I am pleased to meet you. How long have you been doing this sort of thing?

Prince: Mum! Please - we're not touring a factory now. Where's Dad?

Queen: I believe he's writing an introduction for a book about wild life.

Prince: That's the spirit. Well, I'm just going to take (here he shall use her name again) for a spin in a helicopter.

Queen: Don't be late for dinner. Charles and Spike Milligan are dropping in again.

The prince shall then take the girl friend up in a helicopter loaned by the R.N., where he shall turn to her and say:

Prince: I think she really liked you. You could tell by the way she let you help brush the dogs. Do you see those people in the potato field down there? They're photographers from the Sun. Did you know the Sun has more people covering Sandringham than the rest of the world put together? So Dad says.
Girl: I'm sorry - I can see your lips moving, but I can't hear a single word in this helicopter.
Prince: What?

The final part of the ceremony is known as Meeting the Press. This takes place outside the girl friend's home at 8.15 am, as she leaves for work. When she opens the door, the press shall say:-

Press: Blimey, girl, you took us by surprise, can you just go in again and then come out once more? Big smile, that's the way. Lots of happiness, this is your big day, going out with the Prince and all that, hold it!

Look this way, look that way, love, you play ball with us and we'll play ball with you, what's he like then, have you met the Queen, is it wedding bells, just

one more, that's it, now one more for luck.
Girl: Goodness - is it always like this?
Press: 'Fraid so, love.
The girl friend then goes to

work looking very thoughtful, reflecting that it's all going to be harder work than she thought, but that at least she's going to get the chance to meet in person people like Spike Milligan.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 276)

ACROSS
1 Make request (7)
5 Wipes dirt (5)
8 In the past (3)
9 Premier's council (7)
10 World refugee body (11,1,1,1)
11 Joy (4)
12 Trusting (7)
14 Nocturnal guard (5,8)
16 Sinful (7)
18 Hop kiln (4)
21 Potassium nitrate (5)
22 Nutty ice cream (7)
23 Dry wine (3)
24 Fragrant iris (5)
25 Put in order (7)

DOWN
1 Ill (4)
2 Written defamation (5)
3 Vanity (13)
4 Genghis Khan's tribe (5)
5 Betrayer (6,7)
6 Scornful language (7)
7 Knobbly silk (8)
13 Insinuation (8)

SOLUTION TO No 275

ACROSS: 1 Myopic 5 Hereby 8 Orb 9 Garter 10 Otolite 11 Otio 12 Cub 25 Under 26 Oche 27 Oche 28 Oche 29 Oche 30 Oche 31 Oche 32 Oche 33 Oche 34 Oche 35 Oche 36 Oche 37 Oche 38 Oche 39 Oche 40 Oche 41 Oche 42 Oche 43 Oche 44 Oche 45 Oche 46 Oche 47 Oche 48 Oche 49 Oche 50 Oche 51 Oche 52 Oche 53 Oche 54 Oche 55 Oche 56 Oche 57 Oche 58 Oche 59 Oche 60 Oche 61 Oche 62 Oche 63 Oche 64 Oche 65 Oche 66 Oche 67 Oche 68 Oche 69 Oche 70 Oche 71 Oche 72 Oche 73 Oche 74 Oche 75 Oche 76 Oche 77 Oche 78 Oche 79 Oche 80 Oche 81 Oche 82 Oche 83 Oche 84 Oche 85 Oche 86 Oche 87 Oche 88 Oche 89 Oche 90 Oche 91 Oche 92 Oche 93 Oche 94 Oche 95 Oche 96 Oche 97 Oche 98 Oche 99 Oche 100 Oche 101 Oche 102 Oche 103 Oche 104 Oche 105 Oche 106 Oche 107 Oche 108 Oche 109 Oche 110 Oche 111 Oche 112 Oche 113 Oche 114 Oche 115 Oche 116 Oche 117 Oche 118 Oche 119 Oche 120 Oche 121 Oche 122 Oche 123 Oche 124 Oche 125 Oche 126 Oche 127 Oche 128 Oche 129 Oche 130 Oche 131 Oche 132 Oche 133 Oche 134 Oche 135 Oche 136 Oche 137 Oche 138 Oche 139 Oche 140 Oche 141 Oche 142 Oche 143 Oche 144 Oche 145 Oche 146 Oche 147 Oche 148 Oche 149 Oche 150 Oche 151 Oche 152 Oche 153 Oche 154 Oche 155 Oche 156 Oche 157 Oche 158 Oche 159 Oche 160 Oche 161 Oche 162 Oche 163 Oche 164 Oche 165 Oche 166 Oche 167 Oche 168 Oche 169 Oche 170 Oche 171 Oche 172 Oche 173 Oche 174 Oche 175 Oche 176 Oche 177 Oche 178 Oche 179 Oche 180 Oche 181 Oche 182 Oche 183 Oche 184 Oche 185 Oche 186 Oche 187 Oche 188 Oche 189 Oche 190 Oche 191 Oche 192 Oche 193 Oche 194 Oche 195 Oche 196 Oche 197 Oche 198 Oche 199 Oche 200 Oche 201 Oche 202 Oche 203 Oche 204 Oche 205 Oche 206 Oche 207 Oche 208 Oche 209 Oche 210 Oche 211 Oche 212 Oche 213 Oche 214 Oche 215 Oche 216 Oche 217 Oche 218 Oche 219 Oche 220 Oche 221 Oche 222 Oche 223 Oche 224 Oche 225 Oche 226 Oche 227 Oche 228 Oche 229 Oche 230 Oche 231 Oche 232 Oche 233 Oche 234 Oche 235 Oche 236 Oche 237 Oche 238 Oche 239 Oche 240 Oche 241 Oche 242 Oche 243 Oche 244 Oche 245 Oche 246 Oche 247 Oche 248 Oche 249 Oche 250 Oche 251 Oche 252 Oche 253 Oche 254 Oche 255 Oche 256 Oche 257 Oche 258 Oche 259 Oche 260 Oche 261 Oche 262 Oche 263 Oche 264 Oche 265 Oche 266 Oche 267 Oche 268 Oche 269 Oche 270 Oche 271 Oche 272 Oche 273 Oche 274 Oche 275 Oche 276 Oche 277 Oche 278 Oche 279 Oche 280 Oche 281 Oche 282 Oche 283 Oche 284 Oche 285 Oche 286 Oche 287 Oche 288 Oche 289 Oche 290 Oche 291 Oche 292 Oche 293 Oche 294 Oche 295 Oche 296 Oche 297 Oche 298 Oche 299 Oche 300 Oche 301 Oche 302 Oche 303 Oche 304 Oche 305 Oche 306 Oche 307 Oche 308 Oche 309 Oche 310 Oche 311 Oche 312 Oche 313 Oche 314 Oche 315 Oche 316 Oche 317 Oche 318 Oche 319 Oche 320 Oche 321 Oche 322 Oche 323 Oche 324 Oche 325 Oche 326 Oche 327 Oche 328 Oche 329 Oche 330 Oche 331 Oche 332 Oche 333 Oche 334 Oche 335 Oche 336 Oche 337 Oche 338 Oche 339 Oche 340 Oche 341 Oche 342 Oche 343 Oche 344 Oche 345 Oche 346 Oche 347 Oche 348 Oche 349 Oche 350 Oche 351 Oche 352 Oche 353 Oche 354 Oche 355 Oche 356 Oche 357 Oche 358 Oche 359 Oche 360 Oche 361 Oche 362 Oche 363 Oche 364 Oche 365 Oche 366 Oche 367 Oche 368 Oche 369 Oche 370 Oche 371 Oche 372 Oche 373 Oche 374 Oche 375 Oche 376 Oche 377 Oche 378 Oche 379 Oche 380 Oche 381 Oche 382 Oche 383 Oche 384 Oche 385 Oche 386 Oche 387 Oche 388 Oche 389 Oche 390 Oche 391 Oche 392 Oche 393 Oche 394 Oche 395 Oche 396 Oche 397 Oche 398 Oche 399 Oche 400 Oche 401 Oche 402 Oche 403 Oche 404 Oche 405 Oche 406 Oche 407 Oche 408 Oche 409 Oche 410 Oche 411 Oche 412 Oche 413 Oche 414 Oche 415 Oche 416 Oche 417 Oche 418 Oche 419 Oche 420 Oche 421 Oche 422 Oche 423 Oche 424 Oche 425 Oche 426 Oche 427 Oche 428 O

Not drinking can be the devil

George Orwell was really warning us about the totalitarian state - for the last few weeks it has hardly been possible to switch on the television set, or open a newspaper, without coming across someone discussing his or her drink problem.

I used to think that as long as you could walk straight 95 per cent of the time, there was no need to worry. Now, apparently there is a whole new drink theory. It all depends on how frequently you drink rather than on whether you are drunk or sober. If people think they have a drink problem, why don't they give up completely? Counting the glasses like calories is surely the quickest way to a neurotic obsession with the stuff. The answer, of course, is that not drinking at all is a serious social handicap.

I have been married to a teetotaler for nine years, and even people who knew my husband long before he met me still ask him, "don't you ever drink?" They don't say that of non-smokers. Other manifestations of a virtuous lifestyle, such as jogging, giving up fags, doing aerobics, meet with approval.

My husband usually causes far more inconvenience at a social gathering than any drunk. Dinner-party hosts toiled up to produce any cocktail known to man are thrown by a request for water, or something soft. "You can't just have that," they say, commandeering the kids' squash or coke and decking it out in ice-cream and a cherry to look "grown up". Dinner is half an hour late while a search party is sent out for the Perrier.

My husband doesn't drink, because he doesn't like the taste of alcohol and can live happily

COMMENT

without the effect. People find this hard to fathom. "Why don't you approve?" they ask aggressively. The other favourite question is "Is it for medical reasons?" I have discovered that there are all kinds of unmentionable diseases for which the cure involves temporary abstinence from the bottle. Then there is the scientific research, apparently reported in all the newspapers, which proves that people who drink live longer than those who don't.

The admission that he is both a teetotaler and a Fleet Street journalist usually produces the biggest laugh of all - clearly it is a self-imposed penalty after a youth mispent on the floor of El Vino's. He only ever goes there to pick me up, of course.

Not drinking can cut you off from other people - the social fabric of life is steeped in booze. So is the language. "Come and have a drink" rarely has anything to do with thirst. It is usually an excuse for a bit of intrigue and gossip out of office. Occasionally it seems "I am thinking of firing you", perhaps that is why my beloved has remained in gainful employment for so long. Even more occasionally it means, "I am thinking of promoting you" - alas we seem likely never to know.

When we first got married he went to parties with me. Now he usually stays for half an hour then goes and leaves me to enjoy myself while he looks for somewhere to sit and watch *Match of the Day*. Ironically, usually the nearest pub.

Maggie Drummond

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Breathless speculation

Kremlin watchers have diagnosed Mr Chernenko's shortness of breath and persistent cough as being due to chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Chronic bronchitis results from the persistent inflammation of the tubes leading to the lungs so that the tubes often become clogged with pus and mucus. Airway obstruction is further increased by spasm in the wall of the tubes. Emphysema, which causes symptoms in 15 per cent of elderly men, is the term used to describe the breakdown of the walls between the sacs in spongy lung tissue, so that the airspaces, the holes in the sponge, become enlarged with a consequent reduction in the lung surface available for taking up oxygen from the atmosphere.

Few would argue with the likelihood of the television commentators' diagnosis, but

their estimates of its effect on Mr Chernenko's life span, must, without access to the results of lung function tests, be absolutely meaningless: with such tests the influence of lung disease on life expectancy can be forecast with reasonable accuracy.

As Mr Chernenko is 72, chronic chest disease, with the possible risk that it may lead to heart failure, is only one of the many considerations which would have to be taken into account when assessing probable longevity.

Those who watched Mr Andropov's funeral may have been misled as to the true extent of his successor's breathlessness, for, as the Russian leader is known to have a profound dislike for public speaking, the tension and anxiety induced by this occasion would exaggerate it.

Chernenko (left): public speaking will heighten his bronchitis

Acne help

The Conservative Whip of the Conservative Whip Office used to recommend a particularly skilful photographer who could be guaranteed to touch up a portrait of the most acne-scarred face so that it could smile healthily from 2,000 election posters. In the Chesterfield by-election Mr Gonsky Piccaro decided that, whatever its effect on the ballot box, he is going to parade his spots. He says he is standing to draw attention to the plight of fellow sufferers and the very little that medicine can do for them.

Mr Piccaro's motive is worthy but his facts are wrong. Dr W. J. Cunliffe in a review in *BMJ* Magazine, insists that acne can and should be helped, although the treatment may take many months. He suggests that failure is often because the patient becomes discouraged by lack of immediate success.

Successful treatment in mild cases can usually be achieved by applying creams, gels or lotions; more severe cases may need long-term antibiotics, or in some women, hormone therapy. Finally, in the worst cases, retinoid preparations can be given, but these drugs have severe side effects and their prescription should be limited to hospital practice.

Words of comfort

Last week Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, launched a new system for transferring the spoken word into print. Known as the Palantype Computer Transcription System, it has been developed by a charity, Possum Controls, with the help of the Universities of Southampton and Dundee from an idea of Mrs Pauline Ashley, wife of Mr Jack Ashley, the deaf MP.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Derek Mitchell on the breaking of a legal link between physiotherapists and massage parlours

Cleaning up the Act

This week Stanley Cosby, a physiotherapist for 40 years, was prosecuted for refusing to purchase a £68 licence from Lambeth Council in London. Camberwell Green magistrates dismissed the case and awarded defence costs. In doing so, they may well have opened the floodgates on claims for rebates of fees paid by physiotherapists since 1920.

The reason is that the licence Mr Cosby refused to buy was introduced under the London County Council (General Powers) Act of 1920, which was intended among other things to strengthen earlier laws governing the spread of sleazy massage parlours in the West End. Gradually, London boroughs classified physiotherapists' private practices in the same category as the massage parlours and exacted an annual fee.

In court on Tuesday, Mr Cosby, a state registered physiotherapist, protested that the Act related not to his profession, but to brothel-keepers. He had been charged with conducting "massage and special treatment" without a licence at his surgery in Sireatham, south London, but he argued that modern massage was performed by beauticians and other, more dubious individuals, not physiotherapists. Magistrates' rulings do not

constitute precedents in law, but Mr Cosby's victory means that other, similar prosecutions are unlikely to go ahead. And there is the real possibility that some boroughs will now face claims for licence fee rebates from physiotherapists.

Things have changed since the Chinese first employed massage 3,000 years ago. It was still deemed well above board 1,000 years later when Hippocrates, the father of medicine, was kneading the good people of Cos to relieve ailments ranging from sprains and dislocations to constipation.

Such treatment was slow to reach these shores. The word "massage" did not creep into the English vocabulary until 1876. And it was the turn of the century before the Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics was formed.

The term "medical gymnastics" was quickly modified to "physical therapy" and later to "physiotherapy". But the word "massage" was open to wider interpretation. While massage in its purest form was growing as a method of treating the needy, the same label was being used to mask the services of the seedy.

While helping to frame the 1920 Act, James Ollis, chief officer of the public control department of the London

County Council, sought tighter controls on massage parlours.

In a confidential submission to the council's public control committee in July, 1919, he said: At a recent visit to a registered premises, the inspector found one of the assistants most improperly and inadequately dressed. She was wearing a long overall and the texture of this overall was such as to show that she was wearing no undergarment. Moreover, the lower buttons of the overall were unfastened and revealed orange coloured knickers underneath.

"She was engaged at the time in giving body massage to a male patient and the door of the room was fastened."

The committee members heeded his words and decided to beef up the existing Act. A report to the council in October, 1919, said: "As a result of four years' experience in the administration of Part V (Establishments for Massage and Special Treatment) of the LCC (General Powers) Act 1915, we have come to the conclusion that the council's existing powers of control are not sufficiently stringent to effect the suppression of the serious social evil attached to so many West End massage parlours."

Six months later, Mr Ollis was to tell a select committee:

"There are women who advertise their registered establishments in a certain way, namely 'Scotch', 'English' or 'French', 'masseurs', or frequently giving christian names of assistants, all in such a way as to attract to the premises people who do not want to go there for legitimate massage treatment."

On Tuesday, Maurice Guymer, chief magistrate, took the view that Mr Cosby's practice, which attracts an exclusive international clientele, did not fall within the scope of the Act.

So why did Lambeth council prosecute? Timothy Nunn, of the council's legal department, was at pains to point out before Tuesday's hearing: "Mr Cosby is a very nice man. There is no suggestion that he is doing anything unprofessional or improper. It is just that he needs a licence to operate."

Mr Nunn is a nice man too. He is also an extremely industrious one. Even while he was preparing the prosecution case against Mr Cosby, he was working on a draft of a new General Powers Bill.

That Bill is currently before Parliament. Its effect, if passed, will be to exempt from licensing any practitioner included in the Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act of 1960. Ironically, those professions include physiotherapy.



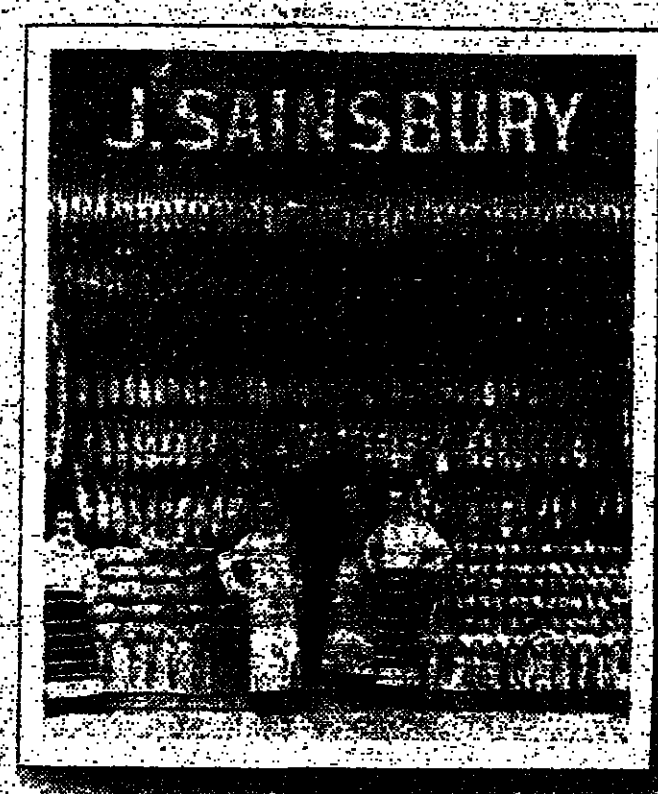
Stanley Cosby: his case may result in claims for rebates from physiotherapists



When he first entered the cut-throat battle no one had heard of Gillette.



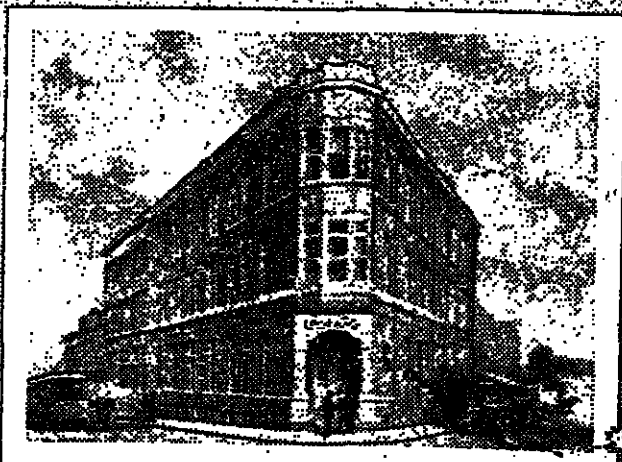
Wedgwood was not always famous worldwide.



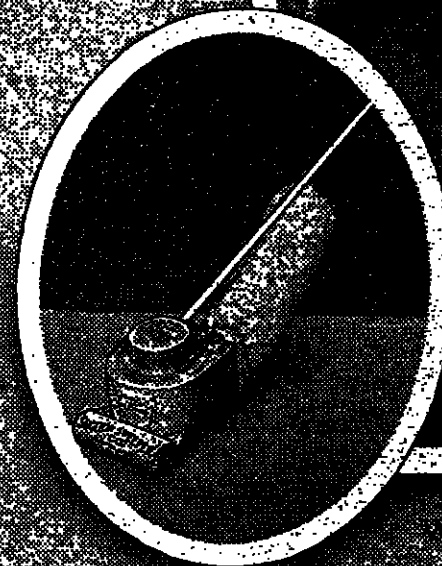
All you look for is Sainsbury's chain.



Henry Ford son Edsel, and Model T.



The Decca Go when it was just starting to rise.



The Decca Go when it was just starting to rise.

We never forget that every big business was a small business once.

We never had the chance to talk to Henry Ford about his new-fangled ideas for mass producing horseless carriages.

But we like to think that if fate had arranged things differently he, or any of these other famous innovators, could have walked into a branch of NatWest and received an enthusiastic reception.

No matter how novel an idea might be we are ready to discuss it seriously.

No business is too small for NatWest to

spend time on. No plan too ambitious.

And we back these fine words with big money.

We're already lending around £4,000 million to more than 250,000 small businesses in Britain. And there's more where that came from.

Usually the money comes in the form of a Business Development Loan. (From £2,000 up.)

But we're also involved in special Government and Common Market schemes

which means lower interest for certain kinds of business.

If you're running a business of your own, come and talk to NatWest soon.

Even if you're only planning to be a tycoon in a very modest sort of way.

NatWest
The Action Bank
Small Business Service

THE TIMES DIARY

Leaders and laggards

Much interest has been aroused by the result of the Marplan opinion poll, published in *The Guardian* yesterday, which gives Labour a 1 per cent lead over the Conservatives. This seems to show the Tories have taken a sudden dive, since just a week ago a Gallup poll in the *Daily Telegraph* gave them a 94 per cent lead over Kinnock's men. There is much talk of banana skins; the CHQ imbroglio, Mark Thatcher's business affairs, the *Panorama* report on right-wing infiltration, and so on. But the small print tells a different story. The acute observer will note that Gallup (Tories 43, Labour 33) and Marplan (Tories 29, Labour 40) carried out their surveys at precisely the same time, between February 8 and 13 — apparently it takes Marplan a week longer to process the data. Which seems to tell us rather more about opinion polls than about the state of the parties.

Talk of polls leads naturally to the election, and John Connell, chairman of the Noise Abatement Society, wishes to make it known he is not the Peace candidate John Smith at Chesterfield. It seems he would want a quiet life, but in different ways.

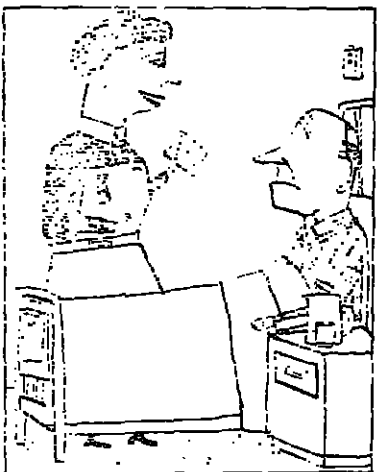
Cover

James Haswell, the insurance underwriter, has personal experience of the confusing jargon in insurance companies' proposals and terms, about which he complains in a report this week. Haswell says he had to telephone his car insurers to find out what they meant by one question when he was recovering his policy. On another note, from the complaints he dealt with last year, he offers the following guidance: "Putting one's foot through the ceiling of one's house is not damage by animal impact."

Stories

From Lloyd's, meanwhile, comes the tale of a broker's novel method of insuring his luxury home and contents. He gets a Lloyd's underwriter to accept the risk for a premium of £1,000 then "forgets" to enter details of the transaction. This ensures that in a trouble-free year he pays nothing for his cover. If, however, he incurs a loss of more than £1,000, he immediately pays the premium and then claims. He has been doing this for years, but all the good things come to an end, although the gentleman doesn't protest that he has been dumbed.

BARRY FANTONI



More like bunkum

Winston Churchill's wartime bunker will clearly be London's star tourist attraction this year. Outside, the bunker entrance at the corner of Long Charles Street near Clive Steps, a serpentine sequence of nine low stone walls is being built on the pavement for the purpose of controlling the crowds expected to file through the war rooms and Churchill's private office and bedroom. The refurbished bunker, on which some £2m has been spent, is due to open on April 1. Visitors hoping to witness Churchill's shade, however, may be disappointed: Only 113 of the 1,125 meetings of the War Cabinet were held in the bunker, and as far as researchers can determine, the great man actually slept there just three times.

"Sir Edward Elgar," the BR locomotive to be ceremonially named tomorrow, is a reincarnation, it seems. Jeremy Clarke, of Chislehurst, tells me the Western Region engine "Lambton Castle" was renamed "Sir Edward Elgar" in 1957 to mark the centenary of the composer's birth. That was back in the steam age, of course.

Royal runner-up

Sought after by two octogenarian great ladies, the composer Carl Davis has had to cancel a date with one of them. He was to have appeared before the Queen Mother next week at the Odeon, Leicester Square, for the first public performance of his score for the film *Chatterbox*, the true story of jockey Bob Champion's battle against cancer. Then came a summons from the actress Lillian Gish for Davis personally to conduct his music for a sequence from *War of the Worlds* to be shown at an American Film Institute ceremony for Gish in Hollywood next Thursday. Davis, who wrote the accompaniments for the Gish films *Broken Blossoms* and *The Wind*, shown in Britain last autumn, chose Hollywood. "It's time the Americans got a glimpse of what we're doing with silent films," he said. Unfortunately, he recently slipped a disc and has had to put the finishing touches to his music in bed, "like a crab turned on its back". All the price of fame.

PHS

Edward Norman on the state's bequest to the modern church:
democracy, collectivism, secularism — and bureaucracy

Four wrong roads to God



Christianity has always taught that the state is a divine institution, whether it is pagan, as in the first centuries of Christianity, or is related to Christianity, as in most of European history subsequently. It is an odd feature of contemporary church life in Britain that its leaders, noted for declaiming a conviction that Christianity must be involved with politics to express the Founder's insistence on love of neighbour, are sceptical, to say the least, about identifying the modern British state as a divine institution.

To do so would doubtless offend against their acceptance of social pluralism and their desire to appear as critics of the existing economic order. It would remind them also of something they would evidently rather forget — the long history of Christian support for traditional social authority. The modern church sees itself as a church of the poor, as a yeast to leaven social opinion, as a conscience to which the world can turn when it seeks a moral view of its purposes. It does not any longer regard itself as the spiritual dimension of the state, as the organized basis of the state's moral sense.

There is a paradox, however. Although the state has continued to advance into something approaching real secularism, the churches, while articulating their distance from it, are actually as closely related to the values and practices of government as they have been in the past.

The modern state in Britain may be characterized under four descriptions: democratic and representative; bureaucratic; collectivist; and secular. The churches have absorbed the ideals and practices of each of these. The overall result is a quite extraordinary harmony between the ideals and practices of the churches and the practices of the state and government.

Modern churchmen see themselves as "challenging" the modern state over some of its policies — over immigration or nationality laws, for example, or over the level of financial aid to the developing world. In reality these "challenges" tend to derive from piecemeal political objections to individual acts of particular parties within government, and amount to little more than a partisan involvement in the operation of the constitution.

The extent to which the church has associated itself with the democratic process is revealed in the sympathy shown by Christian bodies in England for overseas revolutionary movements seeking what are contended to be "democratic" systems of government. It was revealed, more closely perhaps, in the vote at the November 1983 session of the General Synod of the Church of England in favour of proportional representation (reaffirming a previous vote of 1978). There may be many good reasons for the nation to adopt proportional representation for its elections, but it must be difficult for anyone outside the church to see what special insights of the Gospel distil into this constitutional refinement.

In the synods it is the influence of the episcopate which has most suffered — effective powers of decision now usually going, not to the assembled laity or the lower clergy, but to the new bureaucracy attached to the permanent offices of the General Synod. The whole emergent pattern exactly parallels the country's secular political arrangements.

The bureaucratization of the churches is a development closely related to governmental changes. There are two major differences, however. First, the machinery of state has expanded with the growth of the state itself in its spheres of responsibility and action. The machinery of the church, on the other hand, has grown at a time when the church has been in noticeable decline, and when its area of social action has radically

diminished as the state has succeeded to its former functions.

The second difference is economic. Quite a large area of state expansion has occurred around the agencies of financial administration; but much of the Church of England's finance is in the hands of a state body, the Church Commissioners, and the accumulation of ecclesiastical bureaucracy has not especially reflected the need to coordinate financial enterprise.

Bureaucracies have grown through their own internal expansion, in a classic model of existing staff promoting the case for the growth of their own activity. Although bishops head the leading boards of the General Synod, and are the central figures on the committees which manage other sections of the bureaucracy, their real powers are small.

There has grown up, and that quite rapidly, a class of Anglican administrators — with counterparts in the other churches and in the British Council of Churches — who exercise enormous influence, but whose relationship to the General Synod, in the sense of being under its effective direction, is slight.

It is scarcely an exaggeration to say that for the last 10 years the agenda of the church has been set, and the atmosphere in which it has undertaken its tasks contrived, by a small body of permanent officials in the central agencies of the ecclesiastical bureaucracy.

One of the signs of this — and it pervades the entire church today — is a preference for pragmatism rather than principle as the basis of collective action. In one sense this is merely a continuation of the long English tradition of empiricism in political management, of a liking for policy founded upon expediency rather than articulated ideology. But

Behind the barricades: a Mediterranean mix of vin and violence

anarchic individualism, *chacun pour soi*, and their acceptance of a strong authoritarian state which is held ultimately responsible for everything.

One reason for the violence of so many industrial protests in France lies, ironically, in the very weakness of the unions. By contrast to their British counterparts, French unions are poor, badly organized, and often out of touch with their rank and file. Only a fifth of French workers are unionized and strike pay is virtually non-existent. Workers cannot therefore afford to indulge in long disputes. They have to exert a different form of pressure. That is why they tend to go in for the short, sharp shock.

As it struggles to cope with France's worst economic crisis since the war, the present Socialist government may seem to be lurching from one industrial dispute to another. But such disputes often last only a few days or even a couple of hours. Only 1.6 million days were lost because of strikes in France last year, less than a third of the number in Britain with roughly the same size of workforce.

Many aspects of French life seem more violent than in Britain. Behaviour on the roads is one notorious example. French drivers will push and shove you up in an incredible display of aggression. If you protest the offending driver is liable to leap out of his car, pound his fist against your window and hurl abuse. There are regular reports of drivers being shot.

Virtually everyone seems to own a shotgun because *la chasse* (which means killing virtually anything that

religion with communal action for social justice and social "compassion").

This is the sense in which it may be said that contemporary Christianity is becoming "politicized" — not because the British churches are particularly characterized by direct involvement with party politics (indeed, they are not) but because of the identification that is made between essential Christianity and collective concepts of moral responsibility, as applied to the conduct of the modern liberal state.

The modern church is scornful of individualism; hence its distrust of the present Conservative government. The experts in the bureaucracy and the present political leaders as exponents of individualism and critics of collectivism (which in a limited sense they are).

Examination of the secular qualities of the modern British state presents a sort of summary of some of the preceding features. For the churches have been undergoing a process of internal secularization, brought about by their own action, and there can be no doubt that their purpose in this is a desire to adjust to contemporary society. It must be emphasized that the state is in all essentials secular. Many churchmen — and the Archbishop of Canterbury, in his recently-published collection of addresses (called *Windows on to God*) shows that he is among them — cling to surviving evidences of the formal establishment of the Church of England as proofs that the state is not yet secularized. They see a popular yearning for some kind of religious presence in public life and believe that, provided care is taken to achieve an equitable balance between the denominations, the churches will continue to minister to the state in some direct sense.

But by almost all the tests that can be applied to show the existence of confessional principles at work within political society, and in the operation of the constitution, the British experience at the present time shows itself to be secular. The key test is not the formal constitutional survival of a state church, but whether it is allowed a religious role in the political fabric. The Church of England clearly is not.

Parliament no longer consults the church when legislating on even the most obvious "moral" issues. The presence of the bishops in the House of Lords might be regarded as a form of consultation, but in practice the bishops do not act in the Lords as spokesmen for the church and for Christian morality. They speak as individuals.

These then, are four characteristics of the modern state which are moulding the identity and describing the practice of the churches: democratic, bureaucratic, collectivist, and secular. The end result is a tendency for the churches to act more as moral agencies and propagandists for social reform than as the authentic vehicles of spiritual insights — matters of personal sexual morality or the marriage discipline. Thus the church formally condemns divorce, but in the later 1960s took a prominent part in advising the government about divorce legislation. It is at present embroiled in the problem of the remarriage of the divorced, but its own canons logically prohibit any such violation of the principle of indissoluble marriage.

It is a method picked up from the modern practices of secular government, where "middle-ground" solutions, appeasement, and the avoidance of principled action are the stock-in-trade of those who also claim high principles but avoid pressing them as a basis of action.

Collectivism is the third feature of the modern state I have identified. Here the most striking aspect of the churches' response is an adhesion to the ideology of collectivism; to the expression of moral concern in collective terms; to the equating of

for example, are appalled by British football hooliganism, punk gang violence, and our apparent propensity for mass murders like those committed by the Yorkshire Ripper.

Professor Gérard Vincent, sociologist and historian at the Institut des Sciences Politiques in Paris, says that French society functions within a framework of what he calls "contained violence." Certain behaviour may appear very violent, but it is actually being conducted according to a specific, subtle code, he says. "In a dispute such as the truckers, there is a consensus on the rules that have to be followed. Each side knows how far it can go. We are not British; we are a Mediterranean people with a Latin temperament, and we have a higher limited tolerance of aggression and violence."

But how does one tell when that unwritten code has been breached in a way that becomes unacceptable and threatening to society? Social and industrial unrest tends to go in waves, and France seems to be going through one of those waves at the moment: the car workers at the beginning of the year, the farmers, public sector workers and parents of pupils in private schools, now the truckers and the miners, now the steelworkers, and all the other groups whose jobs are being threatened.

For the moment, however, the students — that supposed barometer of the national mood — are quiet and have been since last summer. The various protest movements are largely unrelated and there seems nothing to bring them together into a more potent force. The unions are disunited, and most of them, for all their grievances, know that if they push too hard they are liable to topple a government which, if unpopular, is at least preferable to a right-wing administration.

Diana Geddes

David Watt

When morality and Mammon collide

Last weekend the negotiations that have been going on between South Africa and Mozambique since the end of last year reached their climax in an orgy of satisfaction, if not goodwill, all round. This agreement represents (whether western liberals like it or not) the triumph of South African external policy in the last five years. The expedient of "destabilizing" the front-line states has already worked in practice in the case of Zimbabwe and is now, apparently, bringing about at least a limited détente between South Africa and Angola. The Mozambique affair makes the victory explicit. It is now shown, for all to see, that ideology gives way to power. These countries cannot escape from the strong gravitational pull of the South African sphere of economic and military influence and are therefore obliged, for the moment at any rate, to seek some kind of accommodation if they do not wish to pay an unacceptable price in penury and/or political disruption.

This is a genuinely significant development because it blocks for an indefinite period one of the main paths to change in South Africa itself. If immediate external pressure is now so easily checkmated, then, for blacks, the only hope of altering the balance of power lies in domestic resistance and eventually domestic violence. For the white South African the comfortable (and almost certainly delusory) moral will probably be drawn that there is now a virtually infinite period of time available for slow, peaceful change, or for no basic change at all.

For western governments the dilemma is now quite acute. What are we to do about South Africa? In the long run our interests are quite clear. They are to put it brutally, that our trade and investment in South Africa should prosper but not at the expense of our even more valuable trade and investment in black Africa and in the rest of the Commonwealth. This implies that developments in South Africa should be such that (a) the even tenor of economic intercourse should not be interrupted by holocausts, bloodbaths and the like and (b) that we should not be obliged by UN resolutions and other pressures devised in black Africa to cut off economic links with South Africa on pain, say, of finding that all our assets in Nigeria are nationalized.

These requirements, fortunately, coincide to some extent with morality, for the only hope of avoiding having to choose between black Africa and white lies in the kind of progress towards racial equality that will avert an eventual tragedy in South Africa and also appease the pressure of the other African states. Instinct and interest both point therefore to a policy that will bring pressure for change to bear on the South African government. The difficult question, of course, is how much pressure.

On this point I find that opinion in South Africa itself has shifted quite significantly in the last four years. Black radicals still demand total economic sanctions by the West, irrespective of the consequences for their own people. But I sense that this enthusiasm is not quite so widespread as it was. Perhaps as wealth has spread, even to a very limited extent, in the non-white communities, these feel they have more to lose. The attitude of white liberals has also been modified — in this case mainly by the vivid demonstration in the case of Rhodesia of how incredibly difficult it is to make a trade boycott effective even in the case of a relatively unimportant economy (which of course South Africa's is not).

Philip Howard

The dicey nature of precedence

We are at sixes and sevens with our quinquennaries this year. Quinquennary is the word preferred by etymological purists; but analogy insists on "cent" coming in some form. The College of Arms is about to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the heralds' first incorporation by royal charter of Richard III, and is already making territorial claims on our envelopes with its commemorative stamp. It may be trendy to sneer at the heralds as guardians of useless and snobbish lore. In fact they are running a successful fund-raising campaign in the United States, and at the end of the year will present a quinquennary exhibition of heraldry in New York and other cities. I dare say it will be called Quinquennary over there. They are serious scholars in a romantic, if somewhat narrow, field of history.

And here, hot upon their heels, comes an even dottier quinquennary: the Billesdon Award. I have to warn you that it has to do with the livery companies of the City of London, so hold on to your hats, and be prepared for some pretty arcane stuff.

The Merchant Taylors (sic, I am afraid) and the Skinners, who lined their clothes with fur, were craft rivals in the Middle Ages in the City. Both companies were chartered in 1327 within a few days of each other. They disputed bitterly, and often bloodily, about trade; and formally about precedence in the order of the companies going in processions in the City. Heads were broken about whether the Taylors should march sixth and the Skinners seventh, or vice versa.

Eventually, on April 10, 1484, they submitted the dispute to the arbitration of Sir Robert Billesdon, the Mayor. In a Judgment of Solomon he decided that they should alternate between sixth and seventh annually for evermore; moreover, each company should dine each other annually. And so

Certainly it seems clear that in mounting a global attack on the South African economy we should not only be weakening one of the possible forces for change in the country, but we should be attacking the South African government at one of its strongest points. The weak spot in the South African armour is not economic but psychological — the enormous longing, particularly among English-speaking whites, but also among Africans — to be accepted as legitimate members of the civilized western world, and to evade the proposition that apartheid debars them from this category. It is this desire that accounts for the



Piki Botha, South African Foreign Minister: his policy has paid off

passionate denunciations that the visitor constantly receives of the sports boycott. The truth is that this is one of the most effective weapons we possess — for not only does it hurt deeply but it cannot, by definition, be satisfactorily dodged as the arms boycott can, by the development of a domestic industry. It has already deracialized South African sport at the top, and if it can be made to hold, may eventually do the same in schools.

To say this, of course, is to confess to a relatively high degree of impotence on the grand scale, and the question naturally arises what European companies can do at factory and office level to help. The EEC and Sullivan codes of behaviour for foreign firms are under a cloud at present. The trouble is that they concentrate heavily on pay rather than on training and promotion prospects; and their main effect has been to increase unemployment during the recession, by pricing blacks out of jobs. It is also a pricing paradox that many big British companies see in vilification either in doing more to help blacks or drawing attention to their misdeeds in this respect, for by doing so they merely remind the world of the very fact that causes them bad publicity — namely their presence in South Africa in the first place.

It is here, in my judgment, that we are at fault and South African accusations of hypocrisy are justified. It is admittedly hard to see a satisfactory substitute for our present Pecksniffian official policy of high moral disapproval and naked self-interest; it is, after all, in essence the policy of Mr Mugabe and President Machel. Nevertheless most British people go even further and, having pronounced an easy anathema upon South Africa, wait the luxury of doing more to help blacks or drawing attention to their misdeeds in this respect, for by doing so they merely remind the world of the very fact that causes them bad publicity — namely their presence in South Africa in the first place.

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All good fun for the famous school and other worthy charities that the two companies support; as well as for middle-aged stockbrokers who like dressing up as medieval craftsmen for a feast. But what has it got to do with the rest of us?

But you see, Best Beloved, that medieval dispute at least contributed a useful proverb that is still alive to the English language. "At sixes and sevens" commemorates the ancient rivalry about who should go into dinner first. Or so we are about to be told.

Alas and of course, like so much neat folk etymology, the derivation is codswallop. The first written appearance of "at sixes and sevens" in English is in 1340, Chaucer in *Truith* (c. 1374) has (spelling modernized):

Let not this wretched woe thine heart gnaw,
But manly, set the world on six
and seven,
And if thou die a martyr, go to heaven.

The professional etymologists derive the phrase from dicing, and hazard the guess that it is a fanciful alteration of "to set on cinque and six", the two highest numbers on a dice. Which goes to show that professional etymologists are not only spoil-sports, but also not out to be gamblers. The Billesdon Version is much more fun. And this is not the year to raise a scruple of doubt against it.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CUSTOMS AND MALPRACTICE

Italian customs officers are working to rule, causing intense frustration and hardship to French lorry-drivers. The latter react, with true Cartesian logic, by blocking the roads to all traffic, first around French ski resorts then throughout France, so as to put pressure on the French government. We live, after all, in a united Europe. M. Mitterrand, the French President, is currently in the European chair, and in that capacity this Monday he was visiting the Italian prime minister, Signor Craxi, in Milan: so he was able to tell him to get his customs officers back to work at the double.

Similar messages have been reaching Signor Craxi from Austria, which somehow manages to benefit from European unity without being a member of the EEC and so has more than 1600 lorries waiting on its side of the border for Italian customs clearance. And Signor Craxi cannot have been idle. Yesterday the Prefect of Turin ordered the Italian customs men to work normally; and one of the main unions involved announced that it was calling off its overtime ban. The inhabitants of the narrow Val d'Aosta are bracing themselves for simultaneous ignition of some ten thousand lorry engines. But France, meanwhile, remains paralysed. "The state does not negotiate under pressure," explains M. Jacques Delors, the French finance minister - whose colleague at Transport, M. Charles Fiterman, has been negotiating under intense pressure since the weekend.

Rather a lot of issues are raised by this affair, whose comic side is no doubt a good deal less

visible to those now spending their fifth or sixth consecutive night by the roadside on the lower slopes of Mont Blanc. There are the specific grievances of both lorry-drivers (or lorry-owners) and customs officers. There is the question of the degree of maltreatment the public must be prepared to put up with from this or that category of workers, however acute and justified the grievances involved. There is the variety of national cultures in this respect - ably explored, as between France and Britain, by our Paris correspondent on the opposite page. There is the general political and social situation illuminated, and perhaps affected, by these events in both France and Italy. Above all, there is the question: what sort of Europe are we living in; and why, in a customs union which for France and Italy has been in existence a quarter of a century, do we need customs officers at all?

The demand of the Italian customs officers to be increased in number, on the grounds that there are only four thousand of them whereas Germany has thirty thousand, is perhaps the one that will arouse the least sympathy among the European public: though one should bear in mind the length of the Italian coastline, and the fact that the common external tariff has presumably to be levied at the Swiss and Austrian frontiers. But there is surely something absurd and unacceptable about the fact that, as Dr Karl-Heinz Narjes, the European Commissioner for the "internal market", pointed out in a speech at Chatham House last October, a road haulier carrying goods from Rotterdam to Naples, on top of his average 26 hours' driving

time, has to allow ten hours' waiting time at the Community's internal frontiers.

Even railway passengers between Paris and Brussels, as a writer in the *New York Times* remarked yesterday, have to be checked by two sets of police and two sets of customs officers - though at least they can do it while in motion instead of being held up at the frontier like the truck drivers. Surely if the Common Market means anything it should mean we can do away with such controls and treat the Community as a single economic space within which goods and persons can travel at will. If it achieved that, perhaps the *fronde* of the French lorry-drivers would be forgiven even by those whose holidays it has ruined.

But does their movement have political implications in France? They themselves strenuously deny it, rejecting any comparison with the movement which helped to bring down Salvador Allende in Chile - a comparison that the increasingly nervous left-wing coalition in France has been quick to draw. Many of their grievances, they point out, antedate the arrival of the left in power; and the right hesitates to exploit, still less applaud, a movement that so obviously defies law and order. On the other hand M. Maurice Voiron, leader of the largest organization involved, was talking last October about a "battle for free enterprise"; and one of the accusations against M. Fiterman, the Communist transport minister, is that he has systematically favoured rail over road transport. He denies it but, after this experience, he could hardly be blamed if he were to do so in future.

GETTING IT IN WRITING

Since late last year the British and Chinese negotiating teams have simply been describing their talks on Hongkong as "useful and constructive". This bland formula was given another airing yesterday, after the latest round of talks in Peking. But beyond such vague generalities the outlines of an agreement are starting to take shape. Barring unforeseen problems, the two sides can be expected to make a statement on the future of Hongkong, perhaps in the form of a communiqué, within the next few months.

It is safe to assume that the statement will combine some British acknowledgment of China's sovereignty over Hongkong with a Chinese commitment to preserve the character of the territory largely intact. But it will not, it seems, lay down in detail the manner in which the Chinese will put their commitment into practice. The Chinese themselves have said more than once that the future status of Hongkong will be enshrined in a basic law, or mini-constitution, embodying China's plans for an autonomous, self-governing zone, and that this mini-constitution will take quite a long time to draw up.

None of this will satisfy the five million or so people of Hongkong, most of whom are deeply distrustful of the Chinese Communists, and would prefer it if Hongkong stayed as it is today. But given the extraordinary nature of the Hongkong problem - the lease agreement under which Britain holds most of the colony, the complex interdependence of Hongkong and China - the British Government has had little choice but to seek a

settlement within the bounds sketched out by the present, pragmatic leadership in Peking.

Within these bounds there is still a good deal to be achieved. The British Government's first priority must be to ensure that the basic law, or whatever it is eventually called, that China draws up for Hongkong is as detailed and precise as possible, and is incorporated in a formal document signed and sealed by the British and Chinese governments - if not in the form of a treaty, then in the closest approximation to a treaty that diplomacy will allow. The reason for this is simply that throughout their thirty-four years in power the Chinese Communist leaders have displayed a healthy respect for international agreements, and have proved far more ready to honour them than they have, say, the provisions of their own state constitution. And if it is possible to write into this agreement specific assurances regarding key aspects of Hongkong life - the freedom of its press, the freedom of its people to travel abroad, the inviolability and independence of its laws, the proper handling of its foreign reserves - these will help allay the doubts and fears from which people in Hongkong now suffer.

Such written provisions will not and cannot provide cast-iron guarantees. The sad and unpalatable fact is that however genuine China's present leaders may be about preserving Hongkong unchanged, the shadow of Chinese Communism will hang over the territory come what may. Within the Chinese Party and bureaucracy the habits of political intervention and

dirigisme are very deeply ingrained. Even if there is not another upsurge of radicalism or isolationism - and who knows what will happen when 79-year-old Deng Xiaoping dies? - Chinese cadres will find it hard to let Hongkong go its own way. But a precisely-worded document will help deter the kind of inadvertent interventionism which would have a slow but fatal effect on the territory's present prosperity.

There are other tasks, too, to which the British Government and the British authorities in Hongkong must devote their attention. Before China takes overall control of Hongkong steps should be taken to create a suitable political framework for the local self-government to which Peking says it is committed. Sensible and well-informed people in Hongkong are now calling for a form of democracy to replace the present colonial system of government there. One of the chief failings of the British in Hongkong has been to neglect this aspect of life. More democracy in Hongkong will give the people of the colony strength and self-confidence in their future dealings with China. It will also enable the Chinese Government to deal more easily with Hongkong, as Chinese leaders themselves now seem to accept. But the process will have to be handled deftly if it is not to get out of hand, or cause unnecessary offence to Peking. The transition to a self-governing Hongkong, strong and mature enough to work with - and to some extent under - the authorities in China, will be a complex one, and one that calls for great political skill.

... OH LIBERTY! WHAT CRIMES ...

Individual liberty would seem to be at its most secure here in the maturest of the western democracies. But the very thoroughness of its permeation of the British tradition has its dangers. People can be too casual about the ingredients which make up the whole, too complacent about its continuation in perpetuity. Freedom, as we must never forget, is conditional; and the necessary pre-condition is eternal vigilance.

The National Council for Civil Liberties which celebrates its half century this week, was set up to maintain that vigilance. Unfortunately its fiftieth anniversary does not inspire universal confidence that it has remained true to its tradition. This conviction does not come just from the libertarian right which itself can claim a long tradition, and is now enjoying some unprecedented respectability. The NCCL does not represent that kind of liberty, for sure; but it is seen as indiscriminately anti-authority in every sphere other than economics.

This week the NCCL announced, as part of its new "Liberty Campaign", an inter-

vention to reverse the drift into "a law and order society". There is nothing wrong with a society that is lawful and orderly. Indeed, respect for the law and for our neighbours is a pre-condition of a responsible society in which individuals can exercise their freedoms. It is the means whereby it is achieved that require eternal vigilance. There are the methods of totalitarianism and many stages in between.

Pressure groups such as NCCL invariably attract their share of harmless eccentrics. It is worrying for the public and self-defeating for the NCCL, however, when organizations for whom the word "liberty" has a peculiar meaning, like the Communist Party of Great Britain, obtain a strong foothold in NCCL as communists did in the 1940s and the mid-1970s. Mr Larry Gostin, the fluent New York lawyer who took over in November, was appointed on the understanding that he would not become identified with a political party as had his predecessors. He made plain from the start his wish that NCCL should break out of its left wing ghetto and "gain a wide and substantial following from all parties, classes

and races". He must be held to that undertaking.

In the later 1980s there will, no doubt, be moments when NCCL will offend that very middle opinion it is seeking to capture by seeming soft on terrorism through its opposition to the Prevention of Terrorism Act or wandering once more into emotionally explosive areas like the age of consent. But there are a number of areas where its work will prove increasingly important as technology enables authority, if it so chooses, to intrude ever deeper into personal privacy through electronic surveillance or by storing more information than is strictly necessary in personal files held by the police, the Department of Health and Social Security or the Inland Revenue. Given the complexity of legislation and equipment in these fields, full-time professional watchdogs have a valuable public service to perform. For that reason, NCCL must build on its 50-year tradition of screening every bill, clause, annex and administrative procedure for the thin ends of wedges. It will be hard work, and often unfashionable; but that should not be an encouragement to unnecessary overblowing.

Plea for time by Falklanders

From the Representative of the Falkland Islands Government

Sir, Whilst it is desirable that there be improved diplomatic and commercial relations between Great Britain and Argentina, it is too early to talk of opening links between the Falkland Islands and Argentina and we feel strongly that the Falkland Islands should not be used as a pawn in any bilateral negotiations.

We would welcome the opportunity of re-establishing communications and trading links with Chile and Uruguay. It is important, of course, that the Falkland Islands Government is as far as possible kept continuously advised of all developments in this area.

When the Falkland Islands have had a period of peaceful reconstruction and development the Government and people will be able more clearly to assess their position and decide how they wish their political future to develop. In other words, exercise their right of self-determination.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN MONK, Representative,
Falkland Islands Government,
29 Tufton Street,
Westminster, SW1.
February 22.

GLC papers

From Mr Neville Beale

Sir, In his feature article about Duncan Campbell's troubles (February 15) Peter Kellner says that "the only material marked 'restricted' in his (Campbell's) bicycle papers were some planning documents provided by a Greater London Council committee (of which he is a co-opted member) and supplied to him in his formal capacity as an adviser to the GLC on civil defence policy".

I have to inform you that as opposition spokesman on that same committee I have yet to see any restricted Home Office document.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE BEALE,
Greater London Council,
Municipal Buildings,
The County Hall, SE1.
February 16.

Farmers under fire

From Mr Gerard Noel

Sir, David Hart (feature, February 15) again urges our politicians to get tough with farmers who should be as he rather oddly puts it, "exposed to the cool winds of an economic reality that other sectors... had to embrace".

Mr Hart would have us imagine that the typical farmer is a big businessman "laughing all the way to the bank" on the back of lavish and indiscriminate subsidies. In fact, only 2.5 per cent of all agricultural holdings exceed 300 hectares and when one considers that two-thirds of all mixed farms run at a loss and that the industry's bank borrowing has reached £4bn, it is not surprising that the laughter has become a little hollow.

What would be the consequences of a wholesale removal of agricultural support? No doubt farmers on Grade 1 and 2 land would survive. Many others would go to the wall. It is hard to see who would benefit from such a state of affairs apart perhaps from property speculators waiting to move in on the new rural slump.

Yours faithfully,
GERARD NOEL,
The Manor,
Witchington,
near Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
February 20.

Charities and tax

From the Reverend John Ticehurst

Sir, Lord Bruce-Gardyne's article ("No charity for the charities", February 15) today betrays considerable ignorance of the effects of the taxation embroileries he and his like have got up to in recent years.

A tiny church in this district had on its roof a collapsing and entirely useless cupola that contained a bell that might have rung once in the last fifty years. They wished to take it down before it fell into the street but, because there is a grade II listed building (and a poor one at that), the state refused to allow them to do so.

Instead they have had to replace it at a cost of nearly £2,000 - money they would rather have given to Christian Aid; and then, to add insult to injury, the Government that forced this unnecessary expenditure on them also charged them an extra 15 per cent for the privilege of living in a free country.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TICEHURST,
The Manor,
Franklyn Avenue,
Braunton,
North Devon.
February 15.

Nuclear 'first use'

From Lord Gladwyn

Sir, As the negotiator, on behalf of Mr Bevin, of the first draft of a North Atlantic Treaty, and as an ex-President of the North Atlantic Treaty Association, I can hardly be suspected of being anti-American, still less anti-Nato! It was as a strong supporter of the Alliance, therefore, that I found Mr Podhoretz's article (February 16) tendentious and misleading.

As I understand it, those who believe that the first use of nuclear weapons would, in all probability, result in something infinitely worse than defeat do not recommend any formal repudiation by Nato of any such intention (suicide, presumably always being a possible option), but rather a simple assumption by all the governments concerned that "first use" being, in practice, an impossibility, the construction of

Balance of advantage at Scott Lithgow

From Professor James Pickett

Sir, Much has been said and written about Scott Lithgow; yet relatively little effort has been made to make systematic calculations about the consequences of alternative courses of action for the British economy as a whole.

In this regard even evidently minimal cost-benefit analysis suffices to establish that it is most unlikely that construction of an alternative to the 2002 rig abroad would be in the British national interest. It also serves as a reminder that any part of the value added by a rescue and subsequent operations at Scott Lithgow which leaks abroad could not be counted as a direct benefit to the British economy.

The aggregate number of hourly-paid workers, supervisory and administrative staff required to complete the rig at Scott Lithgow may reasonably be put at 1,825. If this number is multiplied by the present value of savings to the Treasury would be at least £21.4m. This saving comes, of course, from avoiding redundancy payments and unemployment benefit.

It may be noted that redundancy accounts for £14.3m, so that this figure measures the additional initial cost of the Bechtel proposal to close the yard for a brief, interim period. It should immediately be added this does not necessarily tell against Bechtel. A period of efficient planning could well be justified.

The main point I wish to make here about the £21.4m is the obvious one: it gives the Government very considerable scope for manoeuvre in efforts to preserve a long-term, economically viable offshore facility in Port Glasgow. This scope could be exploited in several ways, including that of making the terms

of a renegotiated contract attractive to Britoil.

Moreover, the presumably informed interest of Trafalgar House, Bechtel and Howard Doris indicates that the commercial judgment is that Scott Lithgow has a future. Consequently, if, for technical reasons, these three contenders are ruled out by Britoil, the Government should examine with Britoil and Scott Lithgow (and British Shipbuilders) what can be done to complete the rig before March, 1986.

In this regard, some part of the £21.4m could be spent on hiring Asian technical and management expertise to strengthen the already much-improved management team. This would be cheaper than closure and placing a £90m order in the Far East; and, most importantly, it could preserve the facility.

I appreciate that the Government's approach has throughout been an arm's-length one. However, failure to go down to the level of the individual enterprise has arguably been a major fault in the industrial policies of successive British governments.

Related to this, I think, is the growing feeling that the rundown of British industry has gone far enough. Where, as at Scott Lithgow, there are evident things the Government can do to reverse this, in support of and not in conflict with its views on competitiveness in the economy, people are entitled and increasingly prone to ask why it does not do them.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES PICKETT, Director,
David Livingstone Institute of Overseas Development Studies,
University of Strathclyde,
McCance Building,
16 Richmond Street,
Glasgow.
February 22.

Helping hand from National Trust

From Mr James Lees-Milne

Sir, Roger Scruton's indictment of the National Trust in his article, "Out with the state, enter the state" (February 21), is so misleading that I had to read it twice to make sure it was not meant as a joke.

His assertion that the trust is "an institution, which... is in truth the smooth apologist for the injustices of the state" is indeed the reverse of the truth. On the contrary, the trust has always deprecated the penal taxation which compels so many families to abandon their country houses.

Mr Scruton "groans aloud" on the too-frequent occasions when he learns that another "noble pile" has fallen into the trust's clutches. "To be eternally fossilized," But does he groan aloud every month of the year when some noble pile, which has not passed into the trust's safekeeping, either falls to the ground from decay, or is demolished by the house-breaker?

He instances Canons Ashby and Kingston Lacy as recent victims of the trust's "absolutist" attitude, i.e., salvation and repair. The first house, which for decades deteriorated in the ownership of an ancient family too poor to maintain it, would undoubtedly have collapsed in ruins; and the second would certainly have been stripped of its incomparable picture collection, even if the fabric survived, had it not been for the National Trust alternative.

Not every historic house is, or can be lived in. Hardwick Hall is one such; but that architectural masterpiece is at least preserved intact. There are many country houses belonging to the National Trust in which the original families still reside, if not in the whole, then in part, and within 10 miles from where I write beautiful Dyham Park provides flats for 10 separate families in addition to 14 state

rooms, enjoyed by the public. There is no sign of "the dead hand of the National Trust" in this "mausoleum".

Yours,
JAMES LEES-MILNE,
19 Lansdown Crescent,
Bath, Avon.

From Mr Martin Briggs

Sir, Has it occurred to Roger Scruton, whose ill-informed and prejudiced outburst against the National Trust appeared in the issue of February 21, that the trust would agree with him in wanting country houses to remain, wherever possible, in private ownership?

Over the years the trust has repeatedly stated this simple belief and it is childish of Dr Scruton to give no credit for the long list of happy rescues of houses, large and small, which, without the trust's sympathy, skill and love, would have crumbled and died, their contents dispersed and their environment lastingly impoverished.

Until quite recently I was administrator for eight years of one of the trust's major properties. In addition to the small permanent staff some sixty or so local people annually were employed seasonally, showing loyalty to, and affection for, the house, garden and estate in a tradition of such loyalty stretching back at least 500 years.

Among the 70,000 and more visitors each year few were seen to be visibly mourning any extinguished "fires of our national inheritance." Rather, common sentiments were gratitude to the trust for the sheer quality of its work, mixed with relief that something unique was being preserved.

These sentiments were, incidentally, shared and often expressed by members of the family who had previously owned the house.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BRIGGS,
Chittenden Cottage,
High Street,
Hawkhurst, Kent.
February 21.

Telephone tapping

From Mr Antony Whitaker

Sir, The phone-tapping issues now being ventilated - if that is not over-dignifying the Government's necessary volume of both international and domestic traffic. It is indeed amazing, as Mr Ross-Munro has said (report, February 21), if 100 Post Office eavesdroppers cannot manage more than four and a half taps per man per year.

But is it clear that this is all they do? Do they also carry out GCHQ-type monitoring, and if so, do they seek the Home Secretary's permission to do it? Will they need it under the amendment carried against the Government yesterday (report, February 21) outlawing unauthorized tapping and making it subject to a £5,000 fine?

What about the US listening post at Menwith Hill, the strategic and nodal eavesdropping point for most intercontinental telephone traffic? How much of that gets the Home Secretary's personal, individual authorization for each interception?

Tapping under this Act shall be deemed to include the interception of any radio-transmitted communication - a necessary, anti-Orwellian safeguard in a 1984 measure. With that we could sleep more easily and - more to the point - converse more privately.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY WHITAKER,
14 Belmont Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
February 22.

mission to do it? Will they need it under the amendment carried against the Government yesterday (report, February 21) outlawing unauthorized tapping and making it subject to a £5,000 fine?

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Yours faithfully,
ANTONY WHITAKER,
14 Belmont Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
February 22.

contemplate anything of the kind is as regrettable as it is alarming. I also agree that the triumph of "neutrality" in Europe - of which there is at present little prospect - would probably result, not in war, but in a sort of Soviet hegemony over a number of disunited social democracies. As I see it a new defence system, based on the assumption that there can be no first use of nuclear weapons, would be far the best way to avert such a disaster. And in so believing I am proud to be associated with those great members of the "Eastern Establishment" mentioned by Mr Podhoretz who, I am certain, are in the forefront of all efforts to resist the naturally isolationist tendencies associated with many in California, if not, unhappily, in Washington itself.

Yours etc,
GLADWYN,
House of Lords.

Lives of animals in the balance

From Mr Graham Chaine

Sir, The arrogance with which scientists man treat animal life has been twice exemplified in the past week: by the disclosure that animals are deliberately shot at the Porton Down defence establishment (reports, February 17 and 20), and by the announcement (report, February 16) that the Institute of Animal Physiology near Cambridge has engineered a "sheep-goat chimera".

As usual, superbly logical justifications have been advanced for these experiments. As a direct result of pigs being shot with high-velocity bullets and clamped-down monkeys being blasted with small arms at short range, medical services in the Falklands conflict were unsurpassed in the history of warfare.

Similarly, the production of animals half-sheep, half-goat, is defended on the grounds that endangered species might be rescued by creating conditions in which the embryo of a species at risk could be reared safely in another species.

In the former case, doctors specializing in human wounds - such as those at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast - have disclaimed the usefulness of such experiments, and the suspicion must be that animals are being shot not to save lives but so that more efficient weapons can be developed. In the latter case, the explanation looks like an afterthought to justify scientific meddling and curiosity.

In any case, is the amelioration of one evil sufficient excuse for the perpetration of another? The question is not easy; but scientists rarely seem to ask it, exercising instead the happy fulfillment of their specialized half-minds, leaving moral dilemmas to the exercise of specialized half-minds in another field.

It is 25 years since C. P. Snow proclaimed the existence of a separate scientific "culture", more important for the future of the world than the old "intellectual" one of academic "Luddites". Although F. R. Leavis challenged Snow's materialist conceit, since then have stood up for that human integrity and spiritual wholeness which are alone likely to prevent technological irresponsibility, in combination with Orwellian political logic, from destroying the world.

It is, of course, too idealistic to wish that instead of shooting animals to investigate war wounds, we might investigate humans to discover why war is necessary, or that instead of using genetic engineering to perpetuate endangered species, we should stop endangering them by the radioactive pollutant and destructive habit of our materialist societies.

But though these two incidents may seem minor in the perspective of the world's crisis, they remain symptomatic of the nature of the world's disease. Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM CHAINE,
47 St Barnabas Road,
Cambridge.
February 19.

The political levy

From the Director of Aims of Industry

Sir, The condemnation of the Government's refusal to change on the political levy from opting out to opting in (as is still the case in Northern Ireland) is overshadowing one essential and urgent step. It is to protect trade unionists throughout the country who, despite the fact that they state that they do not want to pay the levy, nevertheless have it deducted from their wages by their employer, and many of them do not get their money back.

The Trade Union Act, 1913, states that this should not be done unless there are special difficulties. Trade unions and employers hide behind this by arguing that in the days of the computer it is difficult to exempt trade unionists who have stated that they do not wish to support the Labour Party. The opposite is the truth. The computer can be highly flexible in these matters.

Just occasionally a brave man stands out and comes forward, as was the case with Mr Jack Clemons, of the Post Office Engineering Union, who went to the certification officer after spending 12 years asking for his money back.

Mr Tom King's "agreement" with the TUC would do nothing to alter this. It would be a simple matter for him to put the matter right by means of legislation. Let us hope we get an amendment on this when the Bill goes through Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL IVENS, Director,
Aims of Industry,
40 Doughty Street, WC1.
February 20.

Cross words

From Mr Harry Holt

Sir, Shafts of lexicographical wit can be found even within the covers of the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*.

In my 1946 edition the 14-line entry under "Oxford" includes definitions of Oxford bags, blue, clay, flame, man (O), mixture, movement, shoe and shorts. The entry under "Cambridge" consists of less than one line. It reads, in full, "C. blue, light blue".

Cowardly editors of more recent editions, however, have expanded the Cambridge entry considerably, even to the extent of admitting the existence of a university there.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY HOLT,
Orchard Close,
Brighthelm Salome,
Worthington,
Oxfordshire.
February 13.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 23: Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Trowbridge received in audience by the Queen on relinquishing his appointment as Governor of Western Australia. Lady Trowbridge had the honour of being received by Her Majesty. Sir Philip Woodfield had the honour of being received by the Queen on his retirement as Permanent Secretary, Northern Ireland Office.

The President of the Italian Republic visited the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace today and remained to luncheon.

The following had the honour of being invited: His Excellency Signor Giulio Andreotti (Minister for Foreign Affairs), His Excellency Signor Antonio Gullotti (Minister of Culture), Signor Antonio Maccanico (Secretary-General, Presidency of the Republic), His Excellency the Italian Ambassador and Signor Cagiani, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Lady Howe, the Earl and Countess of Gowrie, the Viscount Norwich, the Baroness Ellis, MEP

and Mr Neil Elles, the Lord Bridges, the Right Hon Denis Healey, MP and Mrs Healey, Sir Hugh and Lady Casson, Sir John and Lady Tooley, Mr and Mrs John Smith, Mr Julien Bream, Mr and Mrs Alexander Chancellor and Professor and Mrs John Hale.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by the President of the Italian Republic, this evening visited The Genius of Venice 1500-1600 Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Having been received by the President of the Royal Academy (Sir Hugh Casson) and the Secretary (Mr Piers Rogers), Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, with His Excellency, toured the exhibition and attended a Reception.

The Countess of Airlie, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Major the Hon Andrew Wigman, left King's Cross Station in the Royal Train this evening for North Yorkshire.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 23: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Concert in Westminster

Abbey given by the English Chamber Orchestra to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Sir Edward Elgar.

Lady Elizabeth Basset and Captain Alistair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 23: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present at the Elgar Commemorative Concert arranged by the Elgar Society and performed by the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the Royal Festival Hall, London, this evening.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland and Mrs Michael Wigley were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 23: Prince Alexander, at Cowes, Isle of Wight, this afternoon named the new Arun class lifeboat Sir Max Aitken II, which has been received by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution from the Beaverbrook Foundation for service at Stornoway.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight. Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for Ronald Lewis will be held today at noon at St Paul's, Knightsbridge.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. Browne and Miss C. Guinness

The engagement is announced between Piers, younger son of Sir Humphrey Browne, of Beckbury Hall, Shropshire, and the late Lady Browne, and Charlotte, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Guinness, of Weston Fold, Fulmer, Buckinghamshire.

Mr C. W. Allen and Miss H. F. Jones

The engagement is announced between Charles William, second son of Mr and Mrs K. Allen, of Weybridge, and Helen Frances, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Jones, of Holt, Wrexham, Chwyd.

Mr N. D. Bailey and Miss J. L. Holland

The engagement is announced between Nicholas David, younger son of Colonel and Mrs David Bailey, of Cobham, Surrey, and Julia Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric B. Holland, of Malvern, Worcestershire.

Mr A. D. Bardot and Miss J. R. Fenn

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mrs P. Kelly and stepson of Mr P. Kelly, of The Cwm, Monmouth, and Joanna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. H. H. H. of Furnace House, Haslegrave.

Mr A. A. Clark and Miss L. D. Baddeley

The engagement is announced between Arthur, son of Mr and Mrs A. Clark, of High Wycombe, and Denise, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. D. Baddeley, of High Wycombe.

Mr J. H. Glascoe and Miss J. H. Glascoe

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Glascoe, of Fulham, and Mrs O. L. Glascoe, of Knightsbridge, and the daughter of Mr C. J. and Mrs R. D. Glascoe.

Mr J. H. Stamp and Miss J. H. Stamp

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Stamp, of Wokingham, Surrey, and Miss J. H. Stamp, of Wokingham, Surrey.

Timepieces sell above estimates

By Huon Mallalieu

At Sotheby's yesterday a sale of clocks and watches attracted many European dealers and collectors and produced a total of £207,416 with 9 per cent bought in.

A large and unrecorded eight-day keyless pocket chronometer by the noted London firm of Frodsham went to Mannheimer, a dealer from Zurich, at £28,900, (estimate £12,000 to £18,000). The case was hallmarked for 1915.

A quarter-striking carriage clock by James McCabe, which had been presented to the Bishop of Bombay in 1851, reached £11,550 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000), and another

English-made item to do well was an early George III red japanned musical bracket clock. This was by Stephen Rimbault of London, who was famous for such things, and it went to a private bidder at £7,150 (estimate £3,500 to £5,000).

A furniture sale at Christie's also saw many lots selling well above estimate, and made £200,696 with 14 per cent bought in. A late Regency ivory inlaid ebony and rosewood veneered centre table reached £9,720 against an estimate of from £3,000 to £4,000, and a pair of George III open armchairs made £6,480.

However, in a sale of carpets and textiles Christie's found the going much less easy, and the £144,558 total was marred by a bought-in percentage of 66.

This is traditionally a difficult field, and one that has little relationship to the strength or weakness of the rest of the antiques market. Despite this, there were one or two surprises even here, such as an antique Heriz carpet, with a salmon-pink field, which went to the dealer Vigo Sternberg at £9,720, against an estimate of from £2,000 to £2,500.

In a sale of arms and armour Phillips took a bid of £11,000 for a fine pair of shotguns by William J. Powell

Science report

The slow growth of seabed nodules

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

One of the richest sources of minerals is contained in the many nodules, varying in size from a marble to a tennis ball, which lie on the seabed at a depth of 10,000ft and more. Known as manganese nodules they are a potential source of nickel and copper.

Their existence came to public prominence a few years ago when the late Howard Hughes's marine engineering enterprise developed a vessel that was designed ostensibly to suck up some of those deposits for processing at a land-based mineral recovery plant. However, deep-sea mining is a matter of controversy.

An equally intense dispute surrounds the origin of manganese nodules, which have been scientific curiosities for decades since the first oceanographic survey ships dredged up specimens.

Scientists are still uncertain why manganese nodules exist at all. They appear to grow at the glacial pace of 10 millimetres a million years.

But is that correct, why do they remain on the floor of the sea and avoid being discovered in the shower of clay and biological debris which forms a layer thousands of times thicker beneath?

An explanation of how the nodules form geologically on the seabed is the subject of a study called the Manganese Nodule Project (MANOP), involving a number of universities. The chunks of metal-rich ore exist in all the oceans, but the highest concentrations of nodules are in the Pacific.

The content of copper, iron, nickel and manganese varies and, therefore, so does the potential economic value of each deposit. The fact that the mineral content differs provides one clue to the type of

geochemistry controlling the slow accretion of nodules.

The results of the MANOP investigation suggest that the metals originate from the rain of plant and animal remains which contain tiny traces of the minerals. Three main processes govern the way the elements are dissolved in sea water or deposited on the seabed.

The first of those, hydrogenous precipitation - or the reaction of a compound with hydrogen - has nothing to do with the sediment on which the nodules are conched. The process deposits metals present in sea water at concentrations of parts per billion on to nodules.

The two other processes depend on whether any oxygen remains below the surface sediment. The oxygen conditions determine the rate at which particular metals may be freed. Different combinations of some or all the reactions might occur.

Science, Vol 223, No 4636, 1984.



Newspaper visitor: President Pertini of Italy, on a three-day official visit to London, examining a facsimile of the Waterloo edition of *The Times* with Mr Charles Douglas-Home, the editor, when he visited the paper yesterday. Earlier the President, aged 87, lunched at Buckingham Palace with the Queen, who accompanied him in the evening on a tour of the "Genius of Venice" exhibition at the Royal Academy.

Luncheon

Anglo-German Association
The executive committee of the Anglo-German Association gave a luncheon yesterday in honour of the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Baron Ruediger von Weizsacker, at the Royal Air Force Club. Among those present were: Sir Frank Roberts, President; Lord Hope of Upton, Chairman; Sir Robert Ford, Secretary; and Sir John Gifford, Treasurer.

Dinners

Needlemakers' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriff, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Needlemakers' Company held at Mansion House last night. The Master, Mr G. A. Bayman, and Mrs Bayman, and the Wardens and their ladies received the guests. The Lord Mayor, the Master, Sir John Donne and Mr P. R. C. Conl, QC, were the speakers. The Hungarian Ambassador was also present.

Receptions

Westminster School
The Head Master of Westminster School held a reception yesterday evening in Ashburnham House for the Cymrodorion Society at Gray's Inn yesterday to mark the centenary of University College, Cardiff.

Cymrodorion Society
Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, received the guests at a reception given by the Cymrodorion Society at Gray's Inn yesterday to mark the centenary of University College, Cardiff.

Birthdays today

Mrs N. H. Alexander, 69; Professor E. Boydell, 79; Lord Cribber, 83; Lord Dufferin, 80; Mr Reginald Freeman, MP, 88; Mr Richard Hamilton, 62; Mr Paul Jones, 42; Mr David Langdon, 70; Mr Charles McCall, 77; Lord Melchett, 36; Admiral Sir William Pillar, 60; Mr Frank Rogers, 64; Sir Edgar Vaughan, 67; Mr Dennis Waterman, 36; Sir Harold Wilkinson, 82.

Bequest to Masons

The 2,300 acre Broadstone Hill Estate near Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, valued at more than £4m, has been left to the Grand Lodge of the United Grand Lodge of England. It was owned by Mr Harry Ellard, aged 36, of Wotton, Oxfordshire, who died on Christmas Day. He owned a steel-pressing company.

Inner Temple awards

The Inner Temple has announced the following awards:

Walter R. G. Jones, 1984: Gerald R. Jones, BA, MA, LLB, of the Inner Temple, for his services to the legal profession.

Walter R. G. Jones, 1983: Gerald R. Jones, BA, MA, LLB, of the Inner Temple, for his services to the legal profession.

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Bishop to retire

The Right Rev John K. Cavell, Bishop of Southampton since 1972, is to retire on June 30. He has also resigned after 10 years as Bishop of H.M. Prison. The bishop and his wife are to live in Salisbury.

Latest wills

Mr Edward Stanley Chance Carver, of Epsom, Surrey, died, leaving an estate valued at £1,308,126. His wife, Mrs Carver, died, leaving an estate valued at £1,308,126. His wife, Mrs Carver, died, leaving an estate valued at £1,308,126.

Rugby head resigning after illness

Mr Brian Rees, Headmaster of Rugby School since 1981, is resigning at the end of this term after a period of ill health caused by severe strain (Our Education Correspondent writes).

An announcement yesterday said that Mr Rees, aged 54, had been resting since the end of the autumn term last year on doctor's orders after a period of overwork which followed a fund-raising tour of South Africa and a heavy schedule of speaking commitments elsewhere. His resignation has been accepted with regret by Rugby's governing body as from April 30.

Mr Rees's first teaching job was at Eton in 1952 as an assistant master and he later became headmaster of three public schools: Merchant Taylors', Northwood, Charterhouse and Rugby.

Mr John Marshall, the school's second master, will continue as acting head until a new appointment is made. Rugby, where the fees are £4,830 a year, has three girls' houses and 75 girls in the sixth form.

Charterhouse

The following have been recommended for election to music scholarships:

P. O. Phillips, Salisbury Cathedral School, Wiltshire; C. J. Trumble, Eton College, Wiltshire; and G. J. Trumble, Eton College, Wiltshire.

Archive stamps for sale

A series of 30 auction sales spread over 10 years begins on April 26, when Robert Lowe of Christie's holds a first sale of stamps from the collection of the late Lord Elwyn-Jones. Other sales will be conducted by Harmsers of Bond Street, and by Phillips.

The stamps, estimated to be worth £5m, include sheets of the Great Britain stamps of King Edward VII, all over-printed "Specimen", and proof impressions of Queen Elizabeth II issues up to 1970. There is a strong section of British stamps overprinted for use abroad in the Levant, Morocco

Mission audits suggested for parishes

Every Anglican parish is urged today to adopt goals for its work in the local community, and to conduct regular reviews - or "mission audits" - to see whether the goals are being reached. That is the recommendation of a report published by the Church of England's Board for Mission and Unity (formerly Religious Affairs Correspondence Unit).

The Rev Rodney Bonford, Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese of Southwark, said in introducing the report: "Very often the church assessment is entirely subjective and based on people's feelings about what has happened. It is surely also important to assess it objectively."

The report suggests that the "audit" should be conducted by a team including those who are not members of the parish; that the whole congregation should be involved in defining the parish's objectives; and that the result of the audit should be presented to the congregation for discussion.

It acknowledges that some aspects of the church's work are unquantifiable, and says qualitative evaluation is still possible.

University news

Warwick
Honorary degrees will be conferred on the following in July:

Lt Col Viscount Tonypandy, former Speaker.

Dr James R. (Phil) Mead, former university treasurer, Professor Dorothy Wedderburn, Principal of Bedford College, London University.

DSC Professor Dennis Sullivan, professor at the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, Paris.

Appointments
Dr David H. G. Croft, reader in chemistry at Exeter University, to be professor of organic chemistry from October 1.

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OBITUARY

DR CLAUDE NICOL
Leading venerologist

Dr Claude Nicol, CBE, who played a prominent part in the re-opening of the venerology service, died on February 17.

Claude Scott Nicol was born in Dublin in 1914, and educated at Harrow, St John's College, Oxford, and St Mary's Hospital, London. He qualified in 1936, proceeding to his London MBBS in 1938. After two years in various departments in St Mary's Hospital, he had just gone to Oxford to work under Professor (later Sir) Howard Florey when war broke out.

A keen territorialist, he was soon called up, and posted initially to the Victoria Hospital Netley. Here he found that the one solitary ward provided for the venerologist had overflowed to such an extent that practically the whole hospital was occupied by his patients.

He was later posted to the Middle East as adviser in venerology in the 8th Army. He retained his interest in the territorial army long after the war, rising to the rank of full colonel and commanding 217 (London) General Hospital. While commanding this unit he was appointed to Queen's Honorary Physician (1967-69).

After demobilization he went to the London Hospital where in due course he was appointed consultant venerologist and in 1946 obtained both his London MD and his MRCP. He was elected FRCP in 1962.

From the London Hospital he moved to the double appointment of consultant

venerologist to St Thomas's and St Bartholomew's Hospitals. He also spent a year as a Fellow in Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, under Dr Earle Moore, then the leading venerologist in the USA.

He had served as secretary and president of the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases, and was also a prominent member of the International Union against Venereal Diseases and Treponematosis.

In 1967, he was appointed consultant venerologist to the Army, a post he took very seriously, and spent much time giving lectures to young RAMC officers and providing post-graduate courses for specialist medical officers.

He was equally conscientious in fulfilling his duties as consultant adviser in venerology to the Department of Health and Social Security. Appointed to this post in 1968, it fell to him to arrest the decline in the venerology service which had been allowed to take place because of the false belief after 1945 that venereal disease was on its way out.

The hard facts of life showed that this was anything but the case, and it was largely due to Dr Nicol's work and influence that the service took on a new lease of life, attracted more recruits, and gradually became capable of dealing with the problem of what are now officially described as sexually transmitted diseases.

He was appointed CBE in 1977.

MISS JOAN LIVERSIDGE

Miss Joan Liversidge, who died on January 16 at the age of 69, was well known for her knowledge of Roman Britain. She had been Honorary Keeper of the Roman collections in the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology since 1951 and for most of that time was effectively in charge of that section.

She taught the subject in both the Archaeological and Classical Faculties in Cambridge for a number of colleges. She also wrote on it for general readers (including schoolchildren) as well as for professionals. Both as a teacher and as a writer she conveyed her own vivid awareness of the past as a world of real people in recognizable activities and transmitted her keen enjoyment of her subject.

She came comparatively late to serious study of archaeology, after her health and the interruption of the war had inhibited her plans for a career as a musician. Under the sympathetic guidance of J. C. M. Toynbee she undertook a survey of Romano-British villas (for which she was awarded an M.Litt in 1949); she developed a speciality in the art of the province, in Roman furniture (on which she published a valuable book in 1955) and the evidence for everyday life.

The breadth of her scholarship is seen in her largest book, *Britain in the Roman Empire* (1968), which brought her a wide and continuing readership. Among professional archaeologists it is perhaps especially an authority on Roman wall-painting that she is best known - both for her work on the

material they excavated and in numerous publications. Many excavation reports have been enlivened by her acute observations. She solved the problem of the high cost of coloured plates by developing a useful scheme of colour identification on drawings; important studies of wall-painting at Verulamium, York and the Lullingstone villa are in the press.

In 1980 she founded an International seminar to further the subject and edited the first volume of its Proceedings, *Roman Provincial Wall-painting of the Western Empire* (1982).

Her great learning was however tempered by a sense of humour, for she was a friendly and lively personality. A pupil arriving late to a lecture might well find the chairs occupied by balls of wool, catalogues of plants, or sheets of music, for she continued to play and was a fine pianist. For 25 years she was Secretary of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society and was one of the most outstanding holders of the post, maintaining high standards in the lectures and publications and sometimes deterring her colleagues by the determination with which she laid aside her work to assist her pupils in order to fight for a principle.

She had been a Research Fellow of Newnham College and became a (much valued) founding Fellow of Lucy Cavendish College Society, serving as Praelector from 1970-82 and as College and Faculty lecturer in Archaeology.

She was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1951.

PROF LASZLO ORSZAGH

Professor Laszlo Orszagh, of which, excluding private editions, altogether over a million copies are in print. The largest dictionaries in the set contain around 120,000 entries with a rich collection of idioms in both languages. He was also editor-in-chief of a seven-volume dictionary of Hungarian.

His other works include *The Rise of the English Novel* (1942), *A History of American Literature* (1967) and *English Elements in the Hungarian Lexical Stock* (1977). He received many honours and academic distinctions for his scholarly work, including the Gold Medal of the London Institute of Linguists (1970), and was an honorary OBE (1978).

MR PETER BROWN

Mr Peter Brown, Librarian of Trinity College, Dublin, and before that Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum and Keeper of Catalogues at the Bodleian, has died at the age of 58.

He was educated at St John's Grammar School and later at King's College, London, after a period in the Navy. On joining the British Museum Library, as it then was, he undertook the editing of the 263 volumes of the printed catalogue.

On moving to the Bodleian he began the task of computerizing the library's pre-1920 catalogue. He also published a paper on computer activity at

the Bodleian and a book, *The Use of Computers in University Libraries*.

At Dublin 100, he set up a computerized cataloguing system, and a conservation laboratory. His interest in new conservation methods was reflected in his involvement with the British Library Association's committee on conservation, and his chairmanship of the conservation section of the International Federation of Library Associations.

A man of vivacious personality and enthusiasm for new techniques, he worked actively for cooperation between the six copyright libraries.

DR HENRY KAPLAN

Dr Henry S. Kaplan, whose work on cancer therapy included a decisive breakthrough in the search for a cure for Hodgkin's disease, died at his home at Stanford University, California, on February 18. He was 65 and had himself been suffering from cancer for some time.

Kaplan, who helped to create the Stanford University Medical Center's cancer field, was "the outstanding medical cancer researcher" who used to generate radiation for various forms of cancer therapy.

He went on, in association with Dr Saul Rosenberg and others, to devise a diagnosis and treatment for Hodgkin's disease.

The latter, combining radiation, chemotherapy and surgery, completely altered the outlook for Hodgkin's patients, giving 80 per cent curability in what had been previously a fatal illness.

Mr Harry Fairchild, OBE, Under-Treasurer at Lincoln's Inn from 1947 to 1967, died on February 12.

Generating jobs

A SPECIAL REPORT

In 1980 the Special Programmes Unit started work with powerful, locally based employers to improve job prospects for young people. This five page special report marks its progress

James Cooke foresees disaster: a rise in unemployment over the next three to four years to nearly four million, including one million youngsters heading for the scrap-heap, or as near it as makes no difference.

Cooke is not a politician or a left-wing economist trying to put the Government through a wringer. What makes his predictions the more disturbing is that he has no axes to grind; indeed he is a man appointed with the backing of Whitehall itself to help solve, or at least ameliorate, youth unemployment. The Confederation of British Industry Special Programmes Unit was set up in 1980 at the bidding of the Manpower Services Commission to help market youth employment programmes to the country's big employers. Cooke, its chief executive, doesn't believe you can do that by fudging the issues.

"Britain is at both a structural and an economic crossroads," he says. "We have the likelihood of very severe youth unemployment. We have a period of hiatus of at least three to five years whilst, hopefully, the economy picks up. Unless

we get local employer groups owning that problem throughout the country and therefore collaborating fully with government measures and aiming to try and help their local economy pick up quicker, I very much fear that the period of hiatus is too long and that the social problems will become too bad."

This concept - ownership of the problem - is a favourite of Cooke's. Finding jobs for one million youngsters looks impossible, pure pie in the sky. But break the figures down locally and the problem is more manageable.

"Problems which look completely unanswerable at a macro level become very much more resolvable at a local level," says Cooke.

In 1981 its first full year, the unit put together a board which included such luminaries as the heads of Aerial Box, International Thomson, Thorn EMI, Wimpey, BP and the Post Office and drafted secondees from the big companies who were what Norman Mills (Cooke's "number two", seconded from BATs) calls self-motivating mavericks. They became high-powered fixers and nobblers, cutting through red tape and protocol to get at those who could get things moving.

Its remit at that stage was modest and straightforward: a simple push, over a 12 month period, to get the leading employers in the land committed to helping the Youth Opportunities Programme which, until then, had been largely dominated by companies employing 20 or less which were, frankly, looking for cheap labour.

In the course of that year Cooke himself spoke to the chairmen of most of the leading companies and came to some important conclusions: "We found that companies care in a mathematically dis-

crete fashion: number one about themselves, number two about their employees (and you can assume that in most parts of Britain one in four of the average company's employees who won't get a job in the next year or so - so they care about something very close to home); and, thirdly, they care about their patch. It really is quite astonishing how you can talk to Rockitt & Coleman about, say, Reading, and they'll wonder what the hell you're talking about, but talk about Hull and Rockitt & Coleman will do everything they can to help."

To his astonishment, Cooke found that there were no forecasts in Britain of unemployment at a local level. He initiated several studies, the first at Redditch, Preston and Southwark. These confirmed the view that companies were

willing to give their support, but also showed an even more serious youth unemployment problem than anyone had imagined. In Redditch, Preston and Southwark cumulative youth unemployment was standing at 74 per cent, 66 per cent and 42 per cent respectively.

"That gave us pause for thought. Here we all are moaning about 16 or 19 per cent or whatever, but percentages like 74 per cent - that's a different ball game."

Cooke initiated the Community Action Programmes, groups of local business leaders committed to problem solving.

"We discovered several things when you get boards like that together: the first thing was that they'd never met before - that there isn't a network anywhere in Britain where businessmen get together to look at their local community problems that has teeth; and that once they started really owning the problem, because they were also unaware of the scale of it, they then started clamouring for what the ought to do about it."

There are now some 25 CAPs, each of them led by top industrialists such as Gordon Brunton, managing director of International Thomson

(Neath), Lord Polwarth of the Bank of Scotland (Borders) and Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN (Birmingham). One of the principal aims of the CAPs has been to support the Youth Training Scheme, but Cooke thinks those goals must be taken much further.

"Unless we pick up two things I believe the Youth Training Scheme could well come unstuck, and I also think we could be in a situation where the whole effort could look a little pointless. In most of the cities we're involved in we're forecasting cumulative youth unemployment of somewhere between 40 and 70 per cent; this

means that in a place like Tyneside we could well have 35,000 or more youngsters who've been unemployed for any length up to five years, within the next five years."

"So the first worry is what happens to the youngsters at the end of the YTS period. Because if we're right, then unacceptably large numbers of them will go on the dole. And so, through the CAPs... we're trying to develop pilot programmes for the second year."

Areas being examined include job-sharing and value added training.

"By that I mean programmes for a second year that are sufficiently commercially attractive that companies will do them in their own right. You can teach a youngster the basics of secretarial work and I don't think they'll get a job. But teach them the bones of secretarial

work and then give them a hands-on experience programme for a second year where they're taught to put a firm's VAT, cashflow and payroll on a simple micro... it's been done in Bristol; they've got jobs."

Secondly, Cooke hopes for a series of business initiatives to underpin the local economy - every thing from new enterprise workshops, like the one set up by British American Tobacco which has helped create 80 new companies, through "buy local" campaigns and work creation projects, to schemes to inject managerial expertise into smaller companies to help them to grow.

The CAPs are vital to the work of the Special Programmes Unit, but only part of it. The CBI-SPU staff, including 30 senior executives seconded from leading companies, see themselves as Mr Fixits, ready to cajole industrialists into employing youth. The record of the last three years is formidable:

- Creation of 35,000 work experience places in 1981 (equivalent to 40 per cent of all new places that year).
- Creation of 10,000 pilot 12-month training places in 1982.
- A national programme of 80 conferences for local employers in 1983.

But is it all enough? Cooke doesn't underestimate the size of the problem. But he believes that if local industry responds the worst may be avoided.

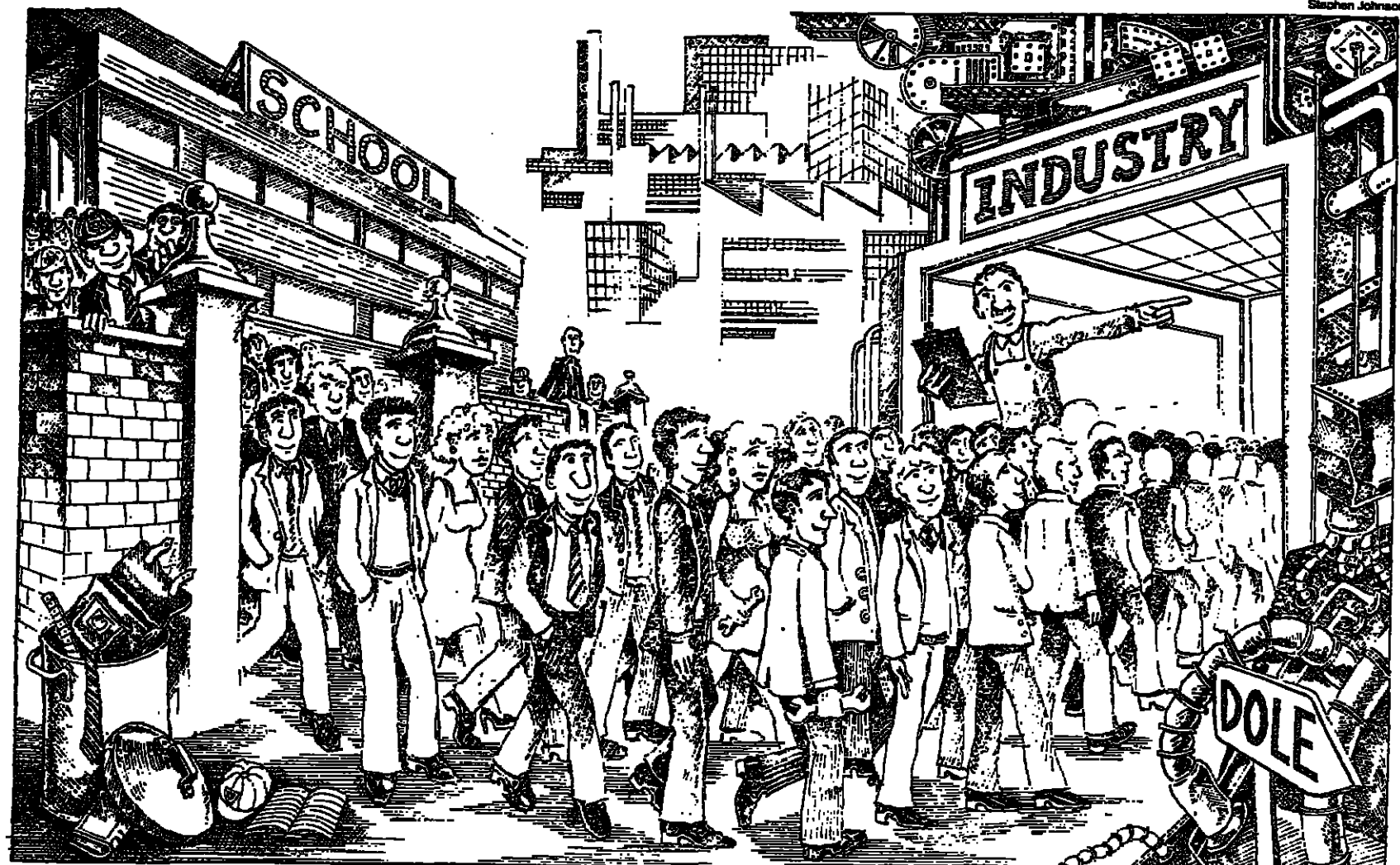
What would he regard as success?

"I would be looking as a number one target to try and get much more of an injection of management skills into helping pick up the economy," he says cautiously. "In terms of what all that could mean - well, the MSC are hoping that some 50 per cent of youngsters this year will get jobs. If we could take that figure up to 60 per cent or 70 per cent that would be an achievement."

Malcolm Brown

On other pages

- Is buying British an answer? Problems facing employers page 16
- Neath: a case study of a town fighting back page 17
- The ways of creating permanent jobs: calling in the flying squad page 18
- Where have all the recruits gone? One of Britain's best trainers page 19



In most of the cities we're involved in we are forecasting cumulative youth unemployment of somewhere between 40 and 70 per cent: this means that in a place like Tyneside we could well have 35,000 or more youngsters who've been unemployed for any length up to five years, within the next five years.

When Pat Harvey joined us last October he was just one of three million unemployed.

He became one of around 1,500 young men and women currently being trained by Wimpey, under the government's Youth Training Scheme. That's almost a tenth of the total YTS intake within the construction industry.

We'll guide him through a year with us. Teach him to do a man-size job in an industry where only the best survive.

If he shows the right aptitudes and he really puts his back into his work, we'll reward his effort. With a full-time job.

It's a future we are happy to offer many hundreds of young people. They'll serve their apprenticeships with us. Attend college as day release students. Look forward to a secure career with a company that recognises and rewards initiative and application.

It's the best pat on the back we can give them.

And one they'll have earned.

WIMPEY
Engineering
Construction Development
George Wimpey PLC
Hammersmith Grove, London W6 7EN
Telephone 01-748 2000

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PAT ON THE BACK AND THE BACK ON A PAT.

Towards the end of the Eighties: the frightening figures of young people likely to be looking for work Is buying British an answer?

Community Action Programmes (CAPs) of which the Confederation of British Industry Special Programmes Unit (SPU) had half a dozen in operation by the middle of 1982, now number 26. Another dozen are planned and likely to be operating within two years or not much more.

CAPs bring together key business leaders, local authority heads and other important local figures to maximize local youth employment prospects, linking with government measures like the Youth Training Scheme (YTS). As CAPs have developed they have become a new form of local economic institution, reaching out to improve overall local economic performance. A common denominator is that all face tricky unemployment problems. The aim has been to set up a CAP in any travel-to-work area with an unemployment rate of more than 12 per cent and an employee population of 100,000 or more.

Allied to the broad strategy of tackling the worst-hit areas are the array of government, and local authority, grants and schemes which are a collective response to unemployment problems. But within the broad framework there are many local differences to tackle which to be successful means developing a specifically local response.

The CAPs are predominantly in key cities and towns. These include Tyneside, Leeds, Hull, Preston, Rochdale, Oldham, Lincoln, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Coventry, Oxford, Luton, Bridgwater, Plymouth and in London, the Southwark area. But they are also in the Borders area, in Anglesey and north Norfolk, where the rural



nature of the territory introduces its own particular problems because of reliance on often a limited number of local industries. One of the most recent CAPs set up is in the Mendips group of towns. Surveys made to estimate, however approximately, the

cumulative effect of schools leavers not getting substantive jobs indicated how far problems differed from place to place. In Leeds the number of school leavers jobless and needing help was expected by the end of 1987 to have risen by rather more than three times. It appeared to be the same in Hull. In Luton, heavily reliant on motor manufacturing, a slightly lesser increase of 278 per cent expected. On Tyneside with its long history of high unemployment levels, an increase of just over 160 per cent was anticipated. The Borders area, with a 245 per cent.

The problem everywhere is securing for young people not only initial work experience, such as under the one-year YTS, but subsequently to get their feet more firmly on the work ladder. Mr James Cooke, chief executive of the special programmes unit pointed out that the importance of the surveys was not so much the figures adduced as the momentum they gave to CAP boards in determining to tackle their individual area problems.

He said: "It is one thing to tackle the problems of an area like the Borders. The reliance there is on textiles and agriculture. The actual numbers of youth unemployment are small. So the reaction of a number of small businesses to broaden the

industrial base could see the problem licked."

But he went on: "It is different at the other end of the spectrum in the big cities. Setting up small businesses plays a part. But even to begin to tackle the problems you need a great cluster of experiments and ideas. The forecasts made are merely indicative. They make no allowance for job turnover rates or labour mobility. But it is hard to find large numbers of new jobs in the offing that are applicable to school leavers."

Now sufficient YTS places have been found, Mr Cooke wants to see that achievement consolidated, initially by reinforcing the quality of the scheme's operation. This strategy led to the idea of setting up a chain of more than 100 management executive workshops bringing together those who in each locality are managing agents for Manpower Services Commission. Some 45 of these are now operating.

Half a dozen times a year common problems can be discussed, experience shared on systems that have proved successful and new ideas tested. SPU has also set up an information centre as a communications link for good ideas to be disseminated around the country. Mr Cooke would like to see an extension to give the information centre a European and even international dimension. The Dutch, for instance, are further ahead in exploring



James Cooke: more experiments, more ideas

work-sharing and recasting the working week. France has been doing advanced work on value-added training, achieving a more productive end result training.

Mr Cooke said: "It's crazy that we do not know in detail what has been discovered in these continental efforts. It could well be better psychologically not for one youngster to have a full-time job but for two to have a job, and half a wage each. Youngsters primarily want a job. I am sure the financial reward is secondary to that."

Another way to capitalize on the YTS would be to use the CAP machinery to experiment in finding ways to give post-YTS youngsters a better chance of continuing useful employment. Mr Cooke said: "Placement is crucial yet how many companies, with those they cannot offer jobs after the YTS year, recommend on the youngsters they have found to be effective? Big companies often place between 80 per cent and all their YTS youngsters but there is room for other companies to do the same thing."

experience a youngster has, the more saleable in market place he or she becomes. Adding more value to the training in the year after YTS is crucial whether it is through job-sharing or more job-specific training."

One successful idea has been to give youngsters house maintenance skills which can be exploited in city centre areas which offer jobbing builders slim chances of a commercial return. The other emerging aspect of SPU strategy is to get the CAP boards to improve the

business climate overall at local level.

New businesses, he emphasizes, are a necessary part of any attempt to improve local business situations. Every borough, he maintains, should have a new enterprise workshop - a concept under which a big local company guarantees a workshops scheme and then rents off the nursery units, usually with secretarial and other services built in on a group basis. Often companies, especially those family-owned, reached a turnover between £1m and £2m and get stuck in a groove, largely through lack of business expertise. The experience of those on the CAP network can provide such expertise.

Mr Cooke said: "Such a company through incompetence might otherwise crash. Say that creates 400 redundancies. It would take five years probably to replace those jobs. So saving them by helping the company find its right road makes good sense. There have been cases where the right investment and introduction of flexible manufacturing has doubled a company's production."

Mr Cooke also favours a buy British campaign with a sharp focus at the grass roots level. Companies getting components from abroad could look constructively and conscientiously to see how far local component manufacturers might, with the right investment and machinery be able to supply such components.

He also believes that big companies, with product ideas researched but never likely to be followed up, be prepared to allow smaller companies to take them up, with the big company taking royalty payments.

Derek Harris

Employers must get together

possible to assess the likely scale of unemployment over the next few years on a local basis, and to consider the potential for community action. From this base, unit executives working with PA have developed methods, questionnaires and strategy papers which can be used as guides for individual organizations to produce their own surveys.

The PA Town Studies report examined Redditch, Preston and Southwark - chosen as areas most likely to represent different aspects of unemployment. Since then, a further 22 studies have been made from local bases and 12 areas have completed their reports. But by the middle of 1982, the first five studies had endorsed the earlier findings. Not only did none of the towns have employment forecasts, but

no local structure existed whereby business people could tackle the difficulties.

The reports also underlined the PA discovered that wide discrepancies existed between the likely fortunes of different localities. The percentage of 16 to 18-year-olds without work in Southwark was expected to reach about 42 per cent. In Redditch, 74 per cent. This reinforced the conclusion that different degrees of remedy as well as different tactics were needed.

Eliciting and compiling employment forecasts proved far from easy, even when those questioned were guaranteed that their information would be confidential. The Tyneside Community Action Programme, for example, reported that many of the organizations

in their area were not prepared to forecast future recruitment levels, although responses on capacity and expected business growth provided a strong indication that recruitment would continue to decline.

The Tyneside CAP team staffed by people seconded from Northern Engineering Industries, the Northumberland Water Authority, Procter and Gamble, and Vickers developed their own two-page questionnaire after guidance from the London-based CBI-SPU office. This was submitted to 140 major Tyneside employers but completed by only 80. Despite the difficulties, a 58-page report was completed and published by July, 1983.

At Hull the entire CAP programme nearly foundered because a preliminary report was considered to have been

based on inadequate analysis of information. The project was, however, rescued as a result of some of the participant company representatives voicing both their disquiet and their rapidly falling interest. The final version, published in March 1983, not only showed a prospect of escalating unemployment, but revealed that many employers were unaware of the Youth Training Scheme proposals. "Publication of the report captured attention", Mr Bill Black, Director of J. H. Fenner (Holdings) and chairman of the Hull CAP commented. "From a situation where it appeared unlikely that sufficient YTS places would be obtained, there was a significant over-provision."

Apart from providing vital information for planners, compilation of the local business studies offer an immediate task on which the newly formed

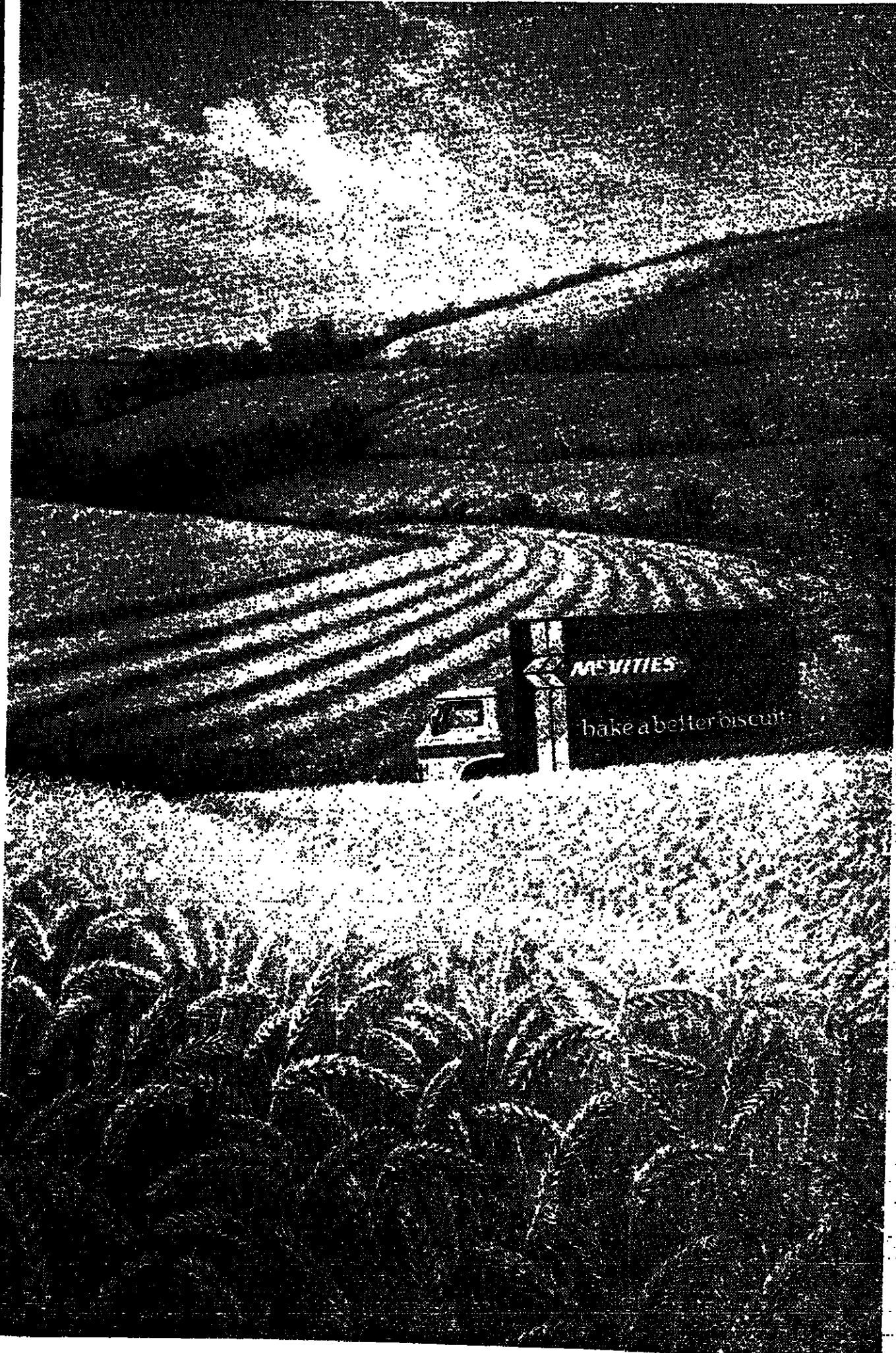
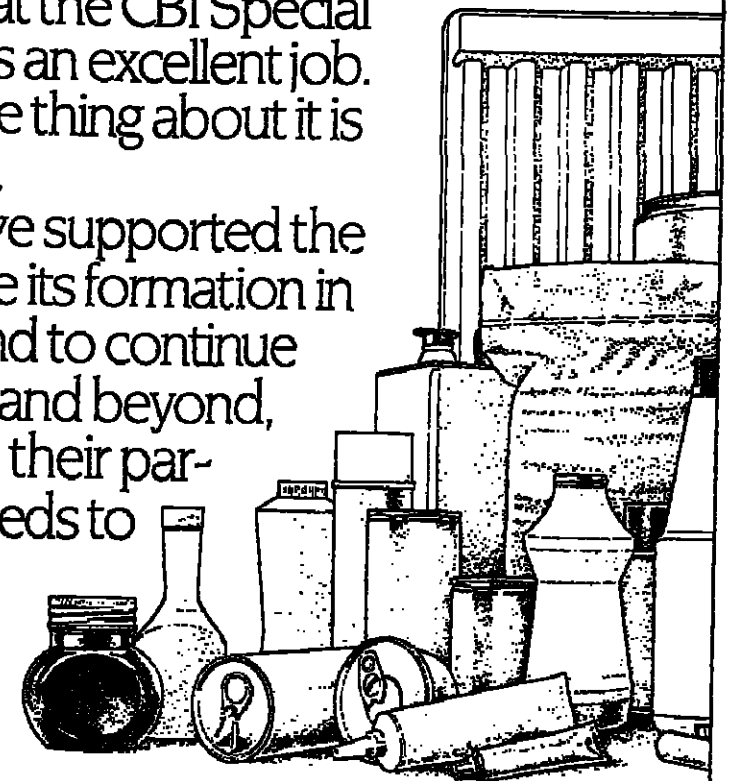
Continued on page 3

We look forward to the S.P.U. not having a job to do. (Because then everyone else will.)

There's no doubt that the CBI Special Programmes Unit does an excellent job. The only unfortunate thing about it is that it's necessary at all.

We at Metal Box have supported the efforts of the S.P.U. since its formation in 1980. And we fully intend to continue doing so through 1984 and beyond, towards the time when their particular job no longer needs to be done.

Metal Box
Metal Box plc, Queens House, Forbury Road, Reading RG1 3JH





Firms must cooperate

continued from page 16

CAP teams can work together. The survey process also concentrates the attention of the recipients of questionnaires on the difficulties of their particular community. The likelihood is that second and subsequent questionnaires would receive a better response than the first.

Certainly, a radical change in attitudes, typical of experiences in other participating areas, is illustrated by Mr. Black's account. "The most important achievement so far is that the spirit of cooperation is now more evident than at any time in the past", he said. "Many employers in Hull didn't even speak to one another. That has disappeared. The civic heads are more co-operative with businessmen than they have ever been. Hull is determined to help itself to overcome its problems - an attitude that was noticeably absent during the period of the survey."

Face-to-face meetings are equally important. More than 80 conferences, most of them attended by 100 or more employer representatives have been organized in the past year either specifically to discuss survey reports, or to consider local unemployment generally.

Starting with the nomination of a senior executive of a leading local employer as chairman, the programme of conferences, meetings and visits is repeated as often as is necessary in order to meet the local target for training places.

The focus during the next 12 months will move progressively towards providing more permanent occupation for youth trainees. In the Luton area, where a comparatively early CAP scheme started in April 1982, Vauxhall, the leading local employer, has already announced its intention to fund an extra year of training for people on their Youth Training intake who have not got jobs by the age of 17. But a variety of pilot measures, and experiments relating to job sharing, new shift arrangements, further education and promotion of government employment subsidies are being discussed.

A study of the extent of local employment problems has inevitably led many of the surveyors to look at potential solutions, even though they may not consider them to be strictly within their terms of reference. In setting up the mechanisms to produce local business studies "we achieved more than we understood", James Cooke.

Patricia Tisdall

Neath: a case history of a town fighting back/Tim Jones reports

A bustle and fizz in the air

Until recently, the largest concentration of waterfalls in the United Kingdom tumbled in lonely splendour towards the sea. Cascading in a charge of white spray, the Lady Falls were a delight seen only by the few who braved the steep valley slope through bracken and bramble. But now the 14 waterfalls can be enjoyed by everyone for the good reason that they are accessible from the road by a safe and gentle path which can even accommodate pushchairs.

The four mile gravel path is part of a larger story which demonstrates that when will combines with expertise a small town, ravaged by recession, can fight back. There is now a bustle and fizz in the air of Neath, West Glamorgan, which contrasts sharply with the despondent mood of hopelessness which pervaded the borough in the late 1970s.

Then, the recession bit deep. Coal and steel, economic backbones of the community, declined and major local employers retrained to survive the gathering storm. Big companies, attracted initially to the area by special government status, shed men like leaves in an autumn gale and the gloom was compounded when that status was stripped away.

In the town whose solid Labour tradition had given it a reputation for industrial militancy which does not stand up to close examination, just ten

employers accounted for two thirds of the jobs. Between 1977 and 1981, 4,300 people or 16 per cent of the workforce was registered as unemployed.

Companies reported they would have to continue cutting back until, by the end of last year, it was estimated almost one in four would be out of work.

In effect, Neath was almost a microcosm of the British economy, declining and ill prepared to adapt to meet the realities of a harsher, competitive world.

Howell Britton, chairman of the council's industry committee, said: "There we were, a town on the periphery of the UK economy that had been deprived of special status just when we needed it. The decline was hard to take because it had happened so quickly." The basis for the fight back was formulated in a special study of the town, sponsored by the Thomson Organisation Ltd., one of the leading companies associated with the Special Programmes Unit established by the CBI.

Gordon Brunton, chief executive of the International Thomson Organisation and a director of the special unit, was convinced that to tackle the problem of Neath and other towns, more had to be done than merely to support the short-term palliatives of the Youth Opportunity Scheme. In short, the town, while

hustling for all the external aid it could get, had to help itself and his company decided to offer practical assistance. One advantage was that although Thomsons owned the local newspaper, it was not a major employer and felt therefore that it could take an independent stance.

After the three month study was completed in August 1981, it was presented to Neath Borough Council, who accepted the formation of the Neath Development Partnership. Two conditions were immediately accepted. It would be non-political and only those who could work hard or contribute would be chosen as members.

The suspicion that lingered

From that loose knit development, the partnership has evolved into the Neath Development Partnership Enterprise Limited and it has eight constituent members. From the private sector they are: International Thomson Organisation, Metal Box, British Petroleum and P.A. Management Consultants. The public sector is represented by Neath Borough Council and the West Glamorgan County Council and the other members are the Wales TUC and the Welsh Development Agency. Initially, the private sector

initiative, in a town that did not return even one Tory representative, was treated with suspicion by some councillors. Two ideologies were combining and although the cause was common for some, the pill took a little time to dissolve.

The welding of the two sides into a totally non-political force working for the town was helped considerably in the early stages with the nomination by Metal Box, another supporter of the CBI unit, of Mr Britton, who is also a AUEW convener.

He is now part of a small team, headed by Mr Jeremy Filmer-Bennett of Thomsons, who are turning into reality the objectives of the town study.

Authoritative analysis had forecast that 22.4 per cent of the population would be out of work by the end of 1983, but the figure is now 15.2 per cent, compared with 16 per cent for the whole of the principality. Male unemployment is scarcely worse than for the rest of Britain, although the figures for females are worse.

Since the partnership began, 400 permanent new jobs have been created and there are confident predictions that another 400 will materialize this year. Some of those placements have come from the 500 people who have benefited from various Manpower Services Commission schemes.

The first step was carefully to pick people who were doers rather than talkers. The philos-

ophy as expressed by Filmer-Bennett was simple: "If you have nothing to bring you can't come to the picnic."

With the team assembled, incorporating as it does the knowledge and ability to chase whatever government and private money is available, the partnership set about its work.

There was a realisation that no magic sponge would emerge in the form of a new major employer, so the development partnership set about establishing small business units.

More than 80 older, unemployed men using money from the Community Enterprise Programme started a number of schemes, including the refurbishing of the old Mettoy warehouse.

This has now become the Lonlas Village Workshops and since it was opened in June 1982, more than 40 units have been taken, creating over 100 permanent jobs. Because of careful vetting and an expert advisory service, occupancy levels have taken less than half the time with other agencies and remarkably there have been no failures to date, in spite of the fact that tenants are charged the full economic rent.

Two other developments, Glynneath Workshops and 12 starter units at the Neath Abbey Business Park are now being let and a private developer is promoting similar premises near the town centre.

The initial survey indicated

that Neath was being bypassed in the use of new technology. Action was swift and Metal Box and the borough council sponsored and information technology centre in the town. The first batch of 30 students left last September and 27 of them went either into permanent jobs or to advanced university courses. This year, there are 40 students at the Centre and there are plans to establish a Micro Technology Development Company.

Neath does not leap to the lips when tourism is talked of, although more than 170,000 people visit the area each year. Most of them visit the privately owned and imaginative Pencynor Wildlife Park. John Carr, the business development director, believes his integrated tourism plan can swell that figure to perhaps 600,000 a year.

Historic and under-promoted antiquities like Neath Abbey already exist, while the Forestry Commission is beginning to open up the 42,000 acre Rhedol Forest to the public.

From Roman monuments to industrial revolution iron works, the area provides a treasure of architectural interests which are being incorporated into a comprehensive package. This will include a dry ski slope, a 90 berth marina, youth hostel, chalet and caravan park, information centres and well defined country walks.

Under the direction of 38 supervisors, the 400 manual workers have already completed 21 projects ranging from the restoration of a church to landscaping a once ugly tip. This year, they hope to complete another 20 tasks.

As the partnership progresses, working closely with government agencies and with anyone who has something to offer, the target it set itself of creating 1,000 permanent jobs appears to be on the near horizon. And they will have been achieved at a cost to the Government of less than £2m, which in terms of today's capital intensive industrial developments, represents good value for money.

At our finishing school we encourage you to get your hands dirty.

Crude oil isn't the only thing Shell refine. At our Stanlow refinery we've been knocking the rough edges off 16-year-old school-leavers.

Last year 300 youngsters joined Shell throughout the UK for a year's foundation training. (It's all part of the Government's Youth Training Scheme.)

From the word go they rolled up their sleeves and shared the workload with our permanent staff.

At Stanlow, 40 young people joined our engineering foundation course - a demanding combination of shop floor practice and school room theory.

We hope some will stay on to

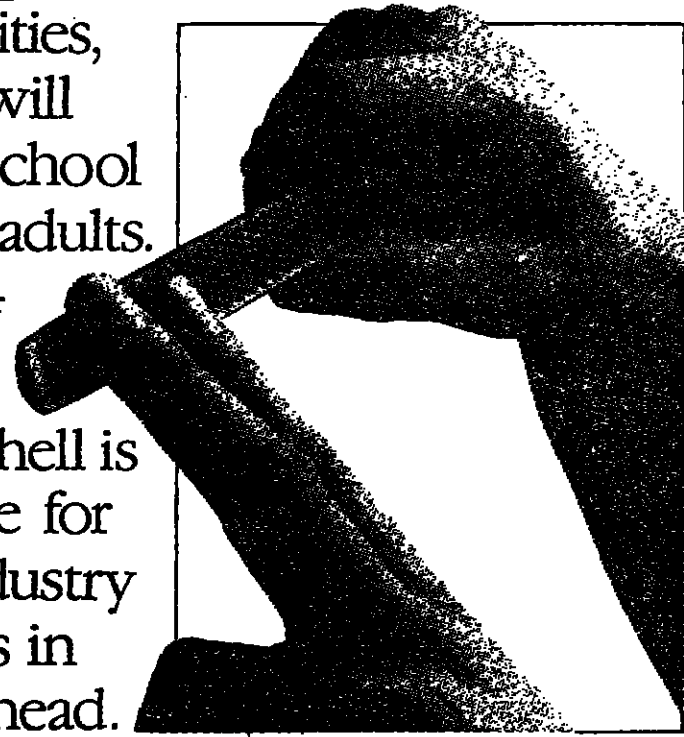
finish a full 4-year engineering apprenticeship.

Others are working on accounting, computing and horticultural activities, developing skills that will transform them from school children to employable adults.

This is no story of hardened oilmen going soft. If a year at Shell is a rewarding experience for the youngsters, then industry will reap these rewards in the years ahead.

Here's hoping our finishing school is the start of something big.

You can be sure of Shell.



Offering a friendly hand

Having met the immediate objective of persuading employers to offer temporary training places, several of the Community Action Programme boards are starting to examine ways of creating permanent jobs. In the 1960s the big retailers pioneered with considerable success a form of job-sharing in order to stay open on Saturdays. More recently, organizations like GEC have been experimenting with job-sharing specifically to alleviate youth unemployment.

Largely as a result of the GEC initiative, a government grant designed to encourage employers to split jobs was introduced last year. The grant offers £750 to an employer for each job which is "split" and for which an eligible recruit is employed.

The GEC pilot sphere, introduced in Coventry in June 1981, involved school-leavers, who were required to attend a specially commissioned course of study at the local technical college for one of their non-working days. However, the job-sharing concept is also seen as potentially useful for adults who may want to work part-time to ease themselves into retirement or to bring up children.

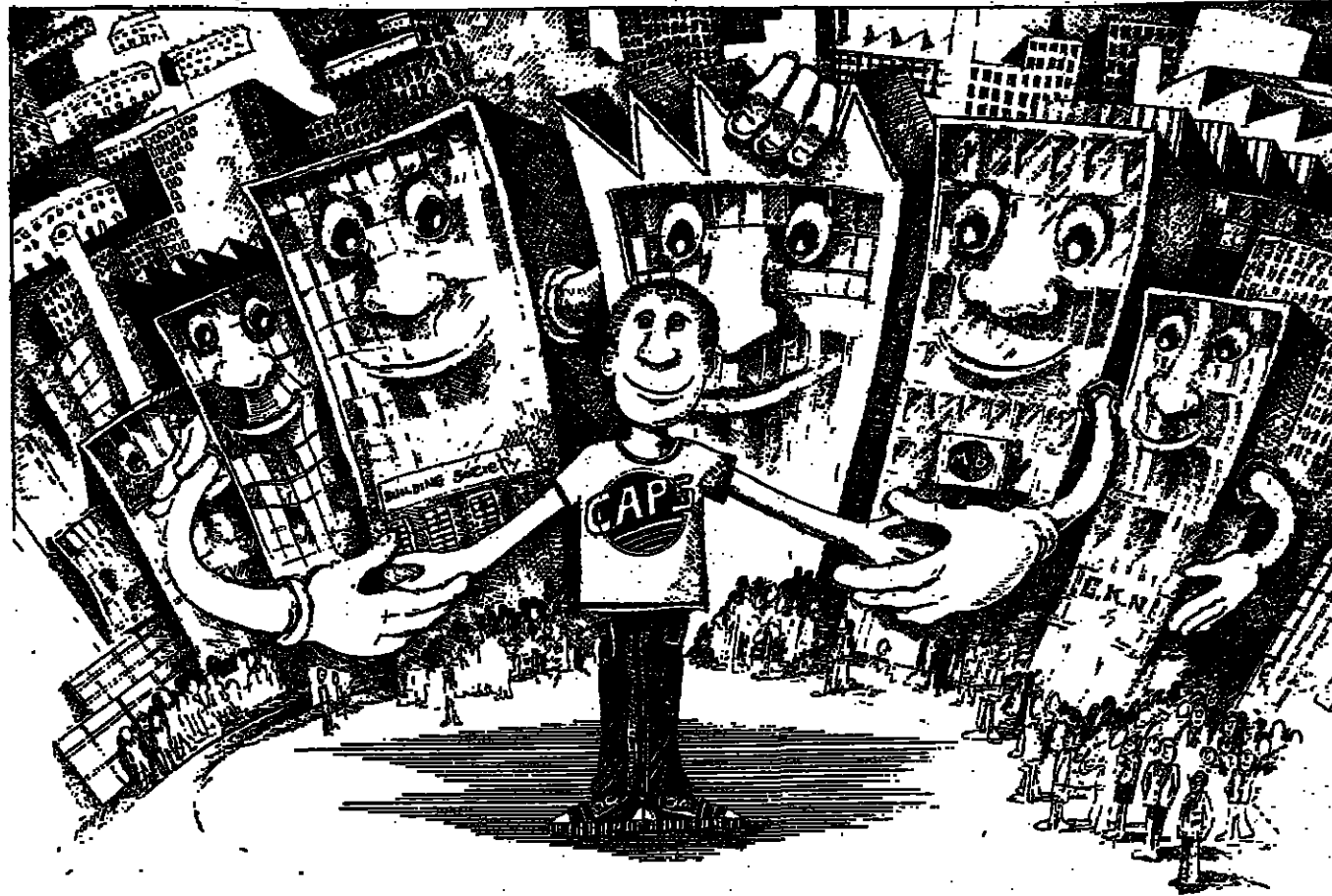
In practice, the take-up has been disappointing. A study produced by Incomes Data Services reported that three months after the introduction only 398 part-time jobs had resulted from 9,000 inquiries by employers. One company told IDS that it was put off the scheme because local colleges did not repeat "day-release" courses during the week. Since the company wanted job-applicants to go to college on their "non-working" days, only half of them could attend the most suitable courses. Other employers complained that participation would force them to recruit a lower calibre of applicant than they would normally.

Employers working collectively at grassroots, rather than head-office, level are much better placed not only to identify government assistance which relates to their area but also to resolve snags in its implementation. A guide compiled by Peat Marwick Mitchell has identified more than 300 different government grants which are available to companies.

In designing its New Enterprise Workshops scheme, which started at Toxteth, Liverpool, in May 1982, BAT Industries was able to build on the experience of other organizations, such as the British Steel Corporation, in encouraging businesses to develop by providing small, low-cost workshops. The unique contribution of the BAT Industries Small Business subsidiary was to design a method of harnessing tax allowances and subsidies so as to make the workshop project virtually self-financing. By negotiating a lease-back arrangement with the Lombard North Centre Bank, BAT was able to offer its previously unused industrial building allowance against the £750,000 cost of converting an unused dockyard shed into 60 small workshops.

Mr Alleyne Reynolds, managing director of BAT Industries Small Business, explains that while his company guarantees the rent to Lombard, this is covered by incoming rents from the tenants. Individual workshop rents are geared to the local going-rate but are offered on an "easy-in easy-out" monthly basis so that tenants do not have to make a heavy financial commitment before they can set up in business. There are, moreover, on-site management services available that offer central security, cleaning, administration, marketing and other facilities.

Mr Reynolds and his colleagues have been sufficiently encouraged by their experiences



at Toxteth, which not only directly provides about 300 jobs, but has also encouraged the local community to embark on a second scheme. This involves converting the disused Bon Marché department store at Brixton, London, into a mixed development of about 100 workshops, retail units and offices. The first units, located at the High Street front of the Brixton building, are scheduled to be ready for occupation in May and the rest later this year.

A video programme describing the workshop project was made by a Liverpool producing company and shown to BAT's own employees. However, it has proved so popular with external organizations, including the CBI-SPU unit, that a further 40 copies and an abridged version dealing specifically with financing have been made.

Measures to prevent collapses and methods of encouraging the growth of existing businesses are also being examined by the special programmes unit. "We have come across companies with thousands of pounds held on current account at the bank and earning no interest," Mr Cooke says, giving one example of unbusiness-like methods. Another he quotes is the works manager who does not even know where the heating boiler is located, let alone its energy consumption. "If we can save a single company with 150 employees from going under, we are achieving the equivalent of an entire new workshop project," Mr Cooke asserts.

A specific method by which large organizations may be able to help smaller ones is by releasing to them the fruits of research and development programmes on products which the originating companies find they cannot themselves manufacture economically.

A desire to help smaller organizations benefit from its £65m a year research budget prompted British Telecom to set up its technology consultancy scheme about two years ago. Still in an experimental stage, this makes material

available at a nominal fee to companies that cannot afford to fund their own research.

British Telecom is also investigating the potential for "hooking out" products which arise incidentally from research into other areas. Scientists frequently discover by-products which are ancillary to the main direction of their programmes - plastic-coating methods discovered while examining metal was one example offered by British Telecom. Large organizations frequently shelve such inventions if they have no direct application for themselves.

Most people accept that there is not likely to be any single answer to the question of job creation - at least for the foreseeable future - and that unemployment is likely to remain a significant social issue. By experimenting with a variety of projects, industrialists have already moved a long way from the attitudes expressed to a PA Management Consultancy team in 1981 which were broadly expressed as "My job is to secure more orders. This will provide a sound future for the company, which will in turn provide more jobs".

Patricia Tisdall

Call in the flying squad

Business in the Community (BIC), backed by more than 60 organizations, two thirds of them mostly the big blue chip companies, was launched in early 1981 to give a lead to the local enterprise agency movement. This movement started in 1978, a response to the problem of unemployment and the need to promote businesses, particularly new ones.

Now there are about 150 around the country and Mr David Trippier, the Minister for Small Businesses, wants to see this number double to about 300 within three years. Even though he believes the majority of agencies have been a success, with none so far fallen by the wayside, he is anxious about quality because he believes it is the effective agency which can be a leader in getting a community to pull itself up by its boot straps. This ministerial drive behind the agency movement underlines the importance

of BIC whose chief executive, Mr Stephen O'Brien, sees it as "a kind of crusade for corporate social responsibility".

There are estimated to be some 1,700 companies, large and small, extending some form of help to enterprise agencies around the country. Usually local authorities are also involved although Mr Trippier has reservations about too dominant a role being played by them. If directors of agencies come from local government there is a danger of simply extending bureaucracy, he believes.

But in many agencies both big national companies and local companies second executives to help run agencies and often offer counselling help for new and expanding companies. It is a chance for younger executives to get wider experience and, for those nearing retirement, to pass on their experience and expertise.

A fresh spate of companies have been joining BIC in recent months, according to Mr O'Brien. About another 50 agencies are now in prospect, some at the discussion stage. He is nevertheless worried that some agencies could be facing difficulties. He said: "It is relatively easy for a new agency. There is great enthusiasm and everybody floods round with support. But establishing agencies has clearly proved more glamorous to sponsoring companies than continuing support."

To help with this problem BIC has set up a unit which acts as a "flying squad" available by invitation to mount a special marketing campaign for individual agencies. But BIC has also warned the Government that, while attracting more companies to the cause can assist with funding, more resources are desirable from the public sector.

One channel is urban renewal money. BIC can also draw on a "pump priming" fund for agencies worth £75,000 for the current financial year. Up to £2,000 can go to assist a newly-formed agency, provided there is no other assistance from the Department of Trade and Industry. There is some financing possible for agency directors to attend a business school course and to put together publicity material.

The supply of able secondaries also seems to be drying up, Mr O'Brien warns. This probably reflects the increased demands within the agency movement, he adds. A substantial proportion of secondments still come from not much more than a score of big companies.

Enterprise agencies are playing an increasingly important role in rural areas as well as the more obvious focus provided

by towns and cities. There are a number now in the West Country and Wales as well as areas like the Isle of Wight. Nests of small workshops can reduce reliance on agriculture and businesses can be developed to provide services in nearby towns. Now there are so many different sources of funds for small business start-ups and expansion it is becoming increasingly important for enterprise agency staff to know their way around the market place. To help with this BIC is about to start a series of "no frills" conferences.

BIC is now setting up a regional structure to help promote an increase in the number of agencies, as well as offering more help to those already operating. A new arm of BIC, created last November, is City of London Business in the Community, aimed at persuading the City's financial institutions to put resources into agencies or other voluntary initiatives in inner city areas. Mr O'Brien said: "Already companies with little or no tradition of involvement in this work are coming forward."

City of London BIC has its own governing council and seconded staff. Executive director is Mr Neville Bedford, seconded from the Bank of England. It is the same pattern with Scottish Business in the Community which is supported by more than 40 leading companies and organizations. Last year eight local enterprise trusts were set up with ScotBIC help in urban areas ranging in size from Glenrothes to Glasgow. By the end of this year another 14 partnerships are expected to be in operation. Some 400 local companies will by then be involved in this enterprise agency work around Scotland.

There is a wider organizational question which is now being explored in talks between BIC and the Confederation of British Industry Special Programmes Unit (SPU). Most of the big company backers of the two organizations are the same. There is also the question of how far the work of the two organizations overlap. By Easter a report is expected on whether the two should merge.

Under examination also is whether there should be a closer working relationship with the Action Reaction Centre, which has specialized in organizing secondment of experienced business executives. Mr O'Brien believes that after the phase of myriads of business - aid organizations being set up, there is a natural second phase of structural change to make such work more effective.

Derek Harris

GKN

commitment to the future

With its wealth of industrial experience and as a leader in technology, GKN commends the work of the CBI special programmes unit and looks forward to continuing its involvement with the community action programmes and other initiatives designed to create real employment opportunities.

GKN is playing a leading role in establishing the community action programmes in Birmingham and Lincoln.

GKN factories have successfully operated YTS pilot schemes in Ayr, Chesterfield, Lichfield, Bromsgrove and Maidenhead.

GKN in 1983/84, is running eight company-based managing agencies in engineering, scaffolding and commercial areas, throughout the UK.

GKN Forgings Division provides a managing agency for small employers who are offering 160 training places in the Bromsgrove area.

GKN supports other managing agents by offering extensive work experience opportunities in its smaller plants.

GKN is becoming increasingly active in supporting the new technological and vocational education initiative.

GKN executives are actively involved in many aspects of the programme.



GKN Group, 7 Cleveland Row, London SW1A 1DB

Vehicle component manufacture: industrial supplies and services: wholesale and industrial distribution: special steels and forgings.

The early days of the Youth Opportunities Programme, set up in 1978 as the unemployment shadows lengthened, saw the main response come from small companies with fewer than 20 employees.

"Possibly 40 to 50 per cent of YOP places were just cheap labour," recalls James Cooke, chief executive of the Confederation of British Industry's special programme unit. He went on: "Moreover at the localized level there were no forecasts of likely unemployment trends, nor of investment intentions by companies or strategies to meet the problems. Britain was flying blind."

This was the situation in 1980, when the CBI group was set up at the behest of the Department of Employment and the Manpower Services Commission. The aim was to involve the big employers in the Government employment measures and give the MSC an extra management arm which could also help in the formulation of strategy.

By 1981, the fruits of the CBI initiative were showing through. The number of work experience places for youngsters grew by about a quarter to around 500,000 and, of this additional growth, the confederation was able to claim the creation of some 40 per cent of the new places. This amounted to upwards of 35,000 places.

The following year 10,000 pilot one-year training places had also been created. In the earlier years of the youth schemes 85 per cent of youngsters were going on to get jobs but as the unemployment queues lengthened this proportion inevitably shrank. Nevertheless some 35 per cent are still getting jobs, Mr Cooke points out.

The Cooke target roughly speaking had been the top 200 companies. There was a lot of localized expertise to be tapped in the CBI's regional structure. The relative ignorance among big companies about the Government's youth initiatives could be breached quickly enough, producing an immediate groundswell of support.

The early priority was to find out what was happening on the ground, to produce local employment forecasts and the likely duration of such problems - particularly as it concerns youngsters. Most companies and regions shares a depressing view of employment prospects over a three year period, especially for the young unskilled, the CBI group found.

The other question was to see how far employers could be encouraged to shoulder responsibility for local problems and it was hoped, take more advantage of the MSC programmes.

The first town studies showed what a wide discrepancy there was between localities. Forecasts of unemployment among school leavers varied between 42 per cent and 74 per cent again emphasizing the need to tackle problems on a local basis. Localized community action programmes were seen as the catalyst in seeking answers to these problems.

Setting up such a programme was recognized as a time-consuming and exacting operation and certainly not a magic wand that would somehow bring instant results. The full commitment of key local businessmen was seen as crucial.

It meant squeezing every advantage out of the business contacts network of members of the CBI group's board and the top regional officials of the CBI. Staff in the field added their muscle to that of Mr Cooke and his London-based team.

The drive was to involve the key local managers running their own companies who could act decisively rather than attracting those with a softer focus such as representatives of national and regional organizations. This was not easy because such local managers were busy men.

It was seen as crucial that local authority chief executives were directly involved together with the MSC usually in the person of the regional manpower services director.

By mid-1982, with six local programmes started as well as three town studies made, the group had learned about setting up employer groups and managing them and was satisfied that the work was valuable if only as a support for the MSC. But Whitehall was already talking of developing the Youth Training Scheme, the successor to YOP through a large number of local initiatives. The group demonstrated that it could show how this could be done.

This was the extra dynamic behind the subsequent growth of the programme and at the same time their aims were refined. The main vehicle was seen as a supervisory board, assessment of employer re-

Tapping local knowledge

sources was necessary as well as the extent of the youth employment problems likely to be faced, taking usually a five-year view. That way there was an increasing chance of a realistic input to Whitehall to help produce a Government policy

founded, as the CBI group's report put it, "on the realities of the mid-1980s work-place" and looking to conditions likely to occur towards the end of the century.

A strong supervisory board chairman, with members

committed to achieving success locally, was seen as one key element for any successful local programme. The importance of secondaries to help push through programmes was underlined, the main spurs for them being large companies, local authorities and public bodies like the police.

D.M.

We are pleased to be associated with the Community Action Programme in its endeavour to create more job opportunities for youth.



The Wrigley Company Limited

Gold Fields
Consolidated Gold Fields PLC,
London

We are pleased to participate in and support the Youth Training Scheme

ARC
Ainsley Roadstone Corporation Limited,
Chipping Sodbury

GENERATING JOBS

'Cheap labour' fear that won't go away

Youth training: where have the recruits gone?

The London Chamber of Commerce's youth training scheme, Enterprise Training, ought to have been a roaring success. Three training centres, staffed by full time professionals, were set up in Acton, Waterloo and Bethnal Green. They offered just the kind of skills now in constant demand: keyboard training, computer literacy, word processing, the fundamentals of import and export.

Last summer the chamber was planning for an autumn start, leading to a build up to 1,000 trainees by June 1984: trainees would get 13 weeks of training at one of the centres and 39 weeks of work experience provided by London firms.

That was the theory. By now, 675 trainees should have been signed on. The scheme has attracted less than a third of that number. It is a pattern which is being repeated in many schemes around the country.

Staff at the chamber blame three main factors. First, children (and often their parents and teachers) think the scheme is just a variation of the old Youth Opportunities Programme, which provided no training and was treated by many employers as simply a means of getting cheap labour. Second, money: many school leavers feel they will get as much, or more, on the dole. Finally, there are more jobs available than was predicted (which may be good for those who get them but is not such good news for organizations setting up schemes at the behest of the Manpower Services Commission only to find that the demand is not there.)

Lindsay Phillips, seconded from IBM to help the chamber's effort, is disturbed: he believes that quite apart from those who are registered as still without work there are a great number

of children in London who have slipped through the net.

He says: "I don't know why we're not getting them but I suspect it's first of all because the young people don't know about it and their peer groups and the youth club leaders and I suspect a lot of the people in the school, particularly Inner London Education Authority schools, are not in favour of it. There are some school people very interested, but generally the school people have been lukewarm."

Phillips contacted the CBI special programmes unit. It is still very early days, and Phillips and his staff do not think that the unit is some kind of cavalry which will ride to the rescue and solve everyone's problems overnight.

Phillips says: "One of the areas that they think they can help us in is to get the managing agents together to put pressure on the education authorities, to allow us access to the kids in the schools so we can provide them with the sort of information about what is available in YTS. We don't feel that either the youngsters or their parents have the information at the moment."

Paying money every day

Phillips is also pleased by the work being done by one of the CBI unit's secondaries, who has been doing the rounds of the careers offices in London.

But he does not think these initiatives alone are going to turn around the situation overnight. He would also like help from the unit in getting a number of people on secondment to help directly with the chamber's programme.

What bothers James Cooke, the CBI unit's chief executive, is that if schemes are not filled quickly then many will lose too

much money to survive. Phillips does not think the chamber has reached danger point yet.

"We've already committed the resources in terms of premises, people and equipment. We've gone and bought all our equipment, rented our premises, hired our staff to cope with the level of trainees we were expecting. We've made that commitment and we're paying money out now, every day; so every day that we're under strength on trainees we've got expenditure at the level we expected but we've only got an income at 30 per cent of that. This obviously is a cause for tremendous concern."

The chamber is now trying to attract employed youngsters under the YTS provisions on a day release basis; this would help to ease the financial position, but it is a far cry from the original intentions.

Cooke believes the London Chamber of Commerce's problems demonstrate the value of the CBI unit as a flexible group of trouble shooters. Staff he has asked to chew over the problem include secondaries from the Midland Bank, Beechams, Unilever and BP.

Cooke also believes the chamber's experience provides a first class case history which will be valuable in a project which the CBI unit is planning for 1984. The unit had already become aware of the need to market directly to the young and their parents much more forcibly than has been done in the past and London has been chosen as a pilot area. It is coordinating a series of conferences involving the MSC, careers service, teachers, media representatives and local authorities for parents and school leavers. More than 100 will be held around the country throughout the year.

Malcolm Brown



Award for Community Action man

David Wright, who has just been awarded a 1984 Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship, with Sharon O'Loughlin, a YTS trainee in the GKN computer centre, Bromsgrove. David Wright was seconded to the Special Programmes Unit in 1981 from GKN General Industries division where he was personnel director and chairman of four companies in the division. He is involved in encouraging community action programmes in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Coventry and Lincoln, and the Travelling Fellowship is to visit Philadelphia, well known for its partnership between business and community groups, and three or four other Middle West industrial cities in the United States to look at problems of unemployment.

The debt owed to the Geordie at Vickers

Very significant progress has been reported by the major companies acting as management agencies in the Manpower Services Commission's Youth Training Scheme. Ironically, the success has come as no small surprise to those involved.

The progression has been such that of ten major companies contacted in a straw poll, all reported that since last September's intake they are actually having trouble filling the vacancies available and are having to advertise to attract youngsters into the scheme.

It has been two years since the scheme first began and companies like GKN, Vickers and its subsidiary Rolls Royce, Grand Metropolitan, Allied Breweries and Rank Xerox admit to approaching the whole project with some caution.

What has happened to make YTS one of the most enthusiastically supported schemes for youth, endorsed from both the management and the shop floor?

One of the most famous youth trainers in Britain is Les Allen at Vickers. He has been

awarded an MBE for his work and is a down-to-earth Geordie to whom many eyebrows had been raised at Vickers when this chief executive, David Plastow, said that Vickers would begin by taking on some 500 youngsters, 250 on engineering courses, another 250 on work experience places and 50 at the Rolls-Royce plant at Crewe.

Mr Allen said: "So far 34 have already been snapped up for permanent jobs - in fact I've just heard that two more have got jobs today - and we're having some minor problems filling the vacancies." Local firms are approaching the management agents with specific job requirements and asking them to recommend youngsters who would be suitable.

While Mr Allen may be coy about Vicker's reputation for turning out high quality candidates the training school is frequently visited by school inspectors and career officers.

The youngsters are treated as adults. They work at a factory within a factory, and that achieves an important objective. They have a chance to

experience life as it really is, and so they can determine where they want their careers to go. Once having established some direction to their lives, they are more suitable for commitment to a job. A small firm does not therefore have to go through the time-consuming and costly business of hiring and firing until a suitable trainee fits in.

The scheme provides the flexibility necessary to enable young people to take the time to think about choice before they have to exercise it. The current economic environment has done much to change attitudes and many of the high calibre young people going into the scheme finish it with a determination to return to school or to a polytechnic to receive further education.

Within the engineering sector, companies were able to report some 15 students known to have gone back to full time education and to have subsequently obtained university places.

"The point is that we are able to gear the training to individual need", Mr Allen said.

"Many kids change their minds about where they want to be once they have a real-life experience. And I think that is where we progress to next."

Certainly career officers find the youngsters easier to talk to and more realistic rather than having to deal with many of the childish fantasies still prevailing after finishing school. Ironically, the scheme has also managed to identify many practical skills that youngsters have that were not full recognized within the educational system.

At GKN forgings, Nigel Cook, their YTS manager, reports much the same story as Vickers. They have 160 approved places and last year were able to fill 85. Early leavers brought that number down to 64. Of the early leavers, nine obtained permanent employment with the small firms they were placed with, another five identified other training schemes in areas they decided they wanted to try for a career, and two decided that the skills they wanted could only be

obtained back at a full-time, further education course. There were only six drop-outs.

Mr Cook, who works in Bromsgrove, has also been able to place people in retailing, clerical, secretarial, engineering and manufacturing companies. The obligation to attend at least 65-days of a further education college does much to change attitudes towards education and the young people respond positively to managing their own bank accounts.

Several important factors emerge: the confidence of local small firms employing youngsters that have been trained or had work experience with a major company; the changing attitudes of the young people themselves to a work commitment; the flexibility the scheme provides in allowing the space for the young people to develop and make a choice based on experimental knowledge, and the positive benefits to employers of having employees with an ambition to get ahead.

Wayne Lintott

RANK XEROX

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As the pioneer in photocopying, Rank Xerox realises its commitment to the whole world of office efficiency.

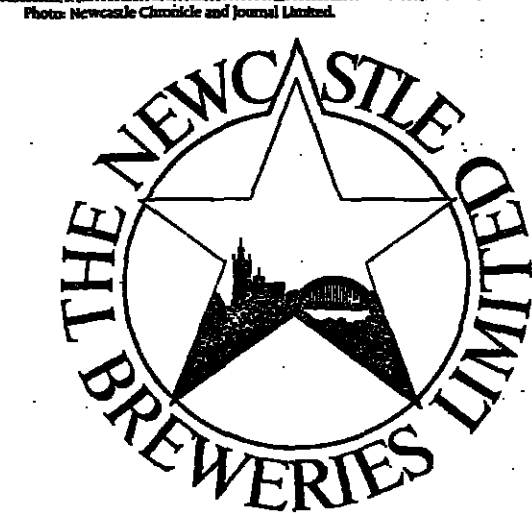
This not only means developing office technology with microcomputers, electronic typewriters, workstations and other high-tech products, but also educating and training the young people who will one day be operating and using this technology.

We believe in educating British youngsters so that they can benefit and contribute to the future of British society.

That's why Rank Xerox is proud to be part of the Community Action Programme and, in particular, the Youth Training Scheme and CBI Special Programmes Unit.

By making a contribution now, we are investing for the future.

Finding thousands of jobs for school leavers isn't all beer & skittles



Part of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries plc.

This year thousands more school leavers will be thrown on to the jobs market.

This Company and many others throughout the UK is actively supporting the Youth Training Scheme which is trying to do something about the problem.

With the help of the CBI Special Programmes Unit we are doing what we can to assist in the further employment of young people and also the development of business initiatives.

There's a long way to go but we'll drink to achievements so far!

Wellcome-acting for the community for more than 100 years



THE WELLCOME FOUNDATION LTD

Atlantic leasing spreads to health

Atlantic computers, the computer systems leasing group launched on the stock market last October, has announced a deal which will take the company into the largely untapped medical equipment leasing market.

The acquisition of the management skills and goodwill of the leasing subsidiary of Tullett and Tokyo Forex International, the banking and money broking group, will allow Tullett

group, for \$25,000 will form the core of Atlantic's newly-formed medical equipment company, Atlantic Medical.

Atlantic's chairman Mr John Foulson, said that \$500,000 was raised in the past year, and that the company was now in a position to enter the private practice market, and also to break into the public sector through the Department of Health and Social Security. A change of attitude in the public sector had opened the way for leasing deals, said Mr Foulson.

The takeover of the Tullett business is Atlantic's second acquisition since the company gained its stock-market listing. Last November Atlantic bought Lion Systems Developments, a privately-owned communications company, for £14.

	Gross Div Yld				1982/84		Gross Div Yld			
	Price	Ch'ge	pence	% P/E	High	Low Company	Price	Ch'ge	pence %	
Cotton	58	-	5.2	8.9	12.3					
Grp	34	-1	0.4	1.5	6.9					
Eng	16									
						T-Z				
						2 1/2 13% TDE				
							18 1/2	-	32.4	

129	-3	11.5	8.8	5.5	250	132	71 Group	247	-10.7
136		8.66	8.3	5.7	203	21	TACE	185	-1
140					207	14	ISM Train Synd	55	-1.7
141		4	5.0	13.7	207	20	Takeda BDR	229	
142		10.2	7.3	29.0	208	20	Tharner CAC	334	
223		15.5	5.5	2.8	210	20	Takex Corp	35	
225		25.6	10.0	1.0	464	20	Tele. & Cable	403	-14.3
226		1.1	4.7	11.2	483	20	Taylor Woodrow	680	-27.9
252		1.3	8.2	7.5	570	486	Telephon	893	-2.8
253		1.4	3.3	11.2	598	55		843	
254		1.74			803				

L	135	+8	17.1b	8.8	11.6	245	214	76 "A"	245	+2	7.1
	164	+8	9.3	5.7	9.1	246	148	Telephone Rent	155	-3	7.1
	86	-8	7.0	8.1	7.4	184	111	Tesco	176	0	-5.4
eds	100	-2	9.3	8.1	8.9	51	38	Textured Jersey	80	+7	5.7
g	222	-2	5.9	5.0	5.8	111	74	Textured PWC	117	-7	5.7
Prock	142	-4	4.7	3.3	3.25	211	7	Tiffany Corp	96	+2	5.9
Ind	68	1	3.1	4.6	39.3	282	13	Time Products	28	+1	5.7
						49	39	Tombins P. S.	73	+5	5.4
						99	79	Toscan	85	+2	5.7
								Totensham H	85	-2	5.7

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Bro	275				149	84	Valor	116	+3	5.7b
Bro	275				143	295	Verreting Ref	653		28.3 b
Bro	206				145	85	Vickers	143		7.5
Bro	206	-1.4	-4.7	2.3	123		Voorlengen	261		
Bro	221				148	182	Vosper	188		
Bro	190				143	63	Wadkin	104		
Bro	275				115	86	Wadkin Ind	104		
Edges	206				145	180	Ward & Gold	116	+2	
Edges	206	-2.9	-1.1	11.1	127	39	Do Riv	116	+2	2.9
News	181				20.8	6.3	Ward & Gold	113		3.3
utfray	206				5	0				
utfray	206	-20.8	-6.3	12.6	127	39				
utfray	206	-5	0		128	45				
utfray	206	-20.8	-6.3	12.6	127	39				

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50		3.3	6.6		189	124	Whelan Corp	170		11.8	
46	-1	0.4	0.9		163	124	Whelan Corp	170		11.8	
415	-8	1.5	3.6	12.9	163	463	Whitman Reeng	635		9.3	1.1
120	25	1.9	3.6	12.9	151	197	Whitlock Mar	32			
Coln		43.9			152	82	Wheway Watson	10		0.1	6.6
Net		3.3	6.1	0.1	152	82	Wheway Watson	10		0.1	6.6
101		4.1	4.5	17.4	230	230	Wholemeal Fit	293		7.3	2.2
269		12.1	4.5	17.4	230	230	Wholemeal Fit	293		7.3	2.2
Deman		7.1	5.6	15.3	218	148	Wigall H	183			
128		7.1	5.6	15.3	93	60	Wigams Grp	60		4.9	8.8
140		7.1	5.1	13.6	463	463	Wills	57		11.4	7.7
108	+6	1.6	1.5	12.2	218	123	Wills & Sons	150		11.4	7.7

ons	434	-6	21.4	4.9	11.8		
Grp	126	-1	2.4	1.9	28.4		
Tech	164	-1			30.9		
Grp	171	-1	10.0	5.8	12.2		
MS	110	-1	3.6	2	13.5		
Adlard	26	-1	8.8	6.7	14.3		
Grp	30	-1	3.8	4.2	12.5		
101	101	-1			8.9		
150	103	-1					
497	Wimpzy	6			185	-1	4.0
280	W'sley Hughes	533			8	-6	22.7
20	11	Wood S W	714				
390	178	Woolridge	319				7.2
290	178	Woolridge	319				14.3
99	75	Zetteren	98				4.4

Conv	10 ₁	10 ₂	10 ₃	10 ₄	10 ₅	10 ₆	10 ₇	10 ₈	10 ₉	10 ₁₀	10 ₁₁	10 ₁₂	10 ₁₃	10 ₁₄	10 ₁₅	10 ₁₆	10 ₁₇	10 ₁₈	10 ₁₉	10 ₂₀	10 ₂₁	10 ₂₂	10 ₂₃	10 ₂₄	10 ₂₅	10 ₂₆	10 ₂₇	10 ₂₈	10 ₂₉	10 ₃₀	10 ₃₁	10 ₃₂	10 ₃₃	10 ₃₄	10 ₃₅	10 ₃₆	10 ₃₇	10 ₃₈	10 ₃₉	10 ₄₀	10 ₄₁	10 ₄₂	10 ₄₃	10 ₄₄	10 ₄₅	10 ₄₆	10 ₄₇	10 ₄₈	10 ₄₉	10 ₅₀	10 ₅₁	10 ₅₂	10 ₅₃	10 ₅₄	10 ₅₅	10 ₅₆	10 ₅₇	10 ₅₈	10 ₅₉	10 ₆₀	10 ₆₁	10 ₆₂	10 ₆₃	10 ₆₄	10 ₆₅	10 ₆₆	10 ₆₇	10 ₆₈	10 ₆₉	10 ₇₀	10 ₇₁	10 ₇₂	10 ₇₃	10 ₇₄	10 ₇₅	10 ₇₆	10 ₇₇	10 ₇₈	10 ₇₉	10 ₈₀	10 ₈₁	10 ₈₂	10 ₈₃	10 ₈₄	10 ₈₅	10 ₈₆	10 ₈₇	10 ₈₈	10 ₈₉	10 ₉₀	10 ₉₁	10 ₉₂	10 ₉₃	10 ₉₄	10 ₉₅	10 ₉₆	10 ₉₇	10 ₉₈	10 ₉₉	10 ₁₀₀																		
Conv	10 ₁	10 ₂	10 ₃	10 ₄	10 ₅	10 ₆	10 ₇	10 ₈	10 ₉	10 ₁₀	10 ₁₁	10 ₁₂	10 ₁₃	10 ₁₄	10 ₁₅	10 ₁₆	10 ₁₇	10 ₁₈	10 ₁₉	10 ₂₀	10 ₂₁	10 ₂₂	10 ₂₃	10 ₂₄	10 ₂₅	10 ₂₆	10 ₂₇	10 ₂₈	10 ₂₉	10 ₃₀	10 ₃₁	10 ₃₂	10 ₃₃	10 ₃₄	10 ₃₅	10 ₃₆	10 ₃₇	10 ₃₈	10 ₃₉	10 ₄₀	10 ₄₁	10 ₄₂	10 ₄₃	10 ₄₄	10 ₄₅	10 ₄₆	10 ₄₇	10 ₄₈	10 ₄₉	10 ₅₀	10 ₅₁	10 ₅₂	10 ₅₃	10 ₅₄	10 ₅₅	10 ₅₆	10 ₅₇	10 ₅₈	10 ₅₉	10 ₆₀	10 ₆₁	10 ₆₂	10 ₆₃	10 ₆₄	10 ₆₅	10 ₆₆	10 ₆₇	10 ₆₈	10 ₆₉	10 ₇₀	10 ₇₁	10 ₇₂	10 ₇₃	10 ₇₄	10 ₇₅	10 ₇₆	10 ₇₇	10 ₇₈	10 ₇₉	10 ₈₀	10 ₈₁	10 ₈₂	10 ₈₃	10 ₈₄	10 ₈₅	10 ₈₆	10 ₈₇	10 ₈₈	10 ₈₉	10 ₉₀	10 ₉₁	10 ₉₂	10 ₉₃	10 ₉₄	10 ₉₅	10 ₉₆	10 ₉₇	10 ₉₈	10 ₉₉	10 ₁₀₀																		
127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	2

J.	1164	-4	12.1	13.5	80	710	3834	Exp	173	10.0	10
	466		12.1	12.3	6	70	11	Expor	575	2.0	0
	456		9.2	10.1	20	214	20	11	First Charlotte	65	0
Ord	135	-3	4.4	4.4	8.6	58	43	Goode D & M Grp	45	1.8	33
	159		8.5	8.6	86.7	398	312	Henderson Ad	373	11.4	33
	43		8.9	6.3	59.7	355	323	Inchcape	323	25.9	6
	141					34	212	Independent Int	230	0	0
	438		11.1	3.7	12.7	74	54	Ivory & Sims	61	0	0
H.	405		24.3	8.0	10.4	625	338	M & G Grp PLC	500	28.6	4
	102		10.5	10.5	7.3	42	35	Manson Fin	38	1.4	3
	129	-2	11.1	11.1	11.1	445	190	W & A	190	1.4	3

[illegible]

INSURANCE										
64		3.6	8.6	6.5	17 1/2	Alex & Alex	\$14		64.8	4
91	+	18.9	4.2	9.0	64 1/2	Do 11% Cnv	589 1/2		71.2	12
136		3.6	2.7	15.1	17 1/2	Am Gen Corp	113 1/2		82.9	3
139		5.6	15.5	15.4	64 1/2	Bright	503		37.8	5
141		37.5	20.0	20.0	64 1/2	Gen Unins	172		37.8	5
142	-	5.6	3.2	20.2	350	Equity & Law	611		36.4	3
175	-	4.3	2.3	17.0	875	434	413		25.0	5
182	-	5.6	3.1	18.1	456	394	413		28.9	6
186		18.4	3.3	18.0	456	394	413		28.9	6
195	-	5.3	4.2	18.8	456	394	413		28.9	6

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		INVESTMENT TRUSTS			
533	378	Alliance Trust	505	17.9b	3.4
104	76	Amer Trust Ord	52	3.4	3.1
254	161	Amers Secs	246	10.1	3.1
61	47	Anglo Int Inv	61	9.3	1.5
453	240	Do Ass	444		
143	75	Anglo Scot	131	3.7	2.8
358	234	Asiatic Inv	246	10.9	2.7

-67p disc	142	103	Atlanta	127	-2	1.6	1.7
-67p prem	102	73	Atlantic Assets	80	-1	0.4	0.6
-67p disc	147	104	Bank Int	144	-1	5.9b	4.1
-68b disc	150	97a	Bardis	130	-1	4.3	4.4
-68b disc	137	93	Bardis	141	-1	1.4	1.4
-68b disc	102	62a	Brit Am & Gen	84	-1	3.7	4.4
-68b disc	162	123	Brit Am & Gen	141	-1	7.7	4.4
-68b disc	182	118	Brit Amp Sec	98a	-1	1.7	1.7
-68b disc	282	216	Brit Invert	230	-3	15.5	15.5
-68b prem	96	48	Brunner	62	-1	2.4	2.4

4-16 prem	185	99	Cardinal 'D'd'	158	5	5.2	3
	57	47	Charter Trust	90	0	1.6	4
	438	322	Chit & Ind	493	0	2.6	3
	795	408	Crecent Japan	717	7	2.1	0.5
	410	286	Delta Inv	340	0		
	303	203	Deroy Tel 'Inc'	326	2	3.3	9.8
	116	363	Dic	0	0		
	277	167	Drayton Cos	258	4	12.1	45
1,530-1,540	225	112	Do Premier	324	5	16.4	5.1
1,540-0.5825	714	714	Drayton Japan	51	0	4.36	17
8.35-8.39	225	210	Edin Amer	163	1		
148.50-148.50	225	150					

11.3510-11.3910	81	82	Edinburgh Inv	55	-1	2.6	0.7
	103	45	Edinb	57		2.6	0.5
0.4290-0.4290	67	133	Elec & Gen	229		4.4	1.9
3.3975-3.4375	208	172	Eng & Int	208	-1	8.6	4.2
225-290	234	237	Eng & N York	75		3.3	3.3
2.1960-2.2160	81	66	F & C Alliance	78		2.2	2.9
5.11-5.14	172	130	Family Inv	160		0.1	5.4
3.0620-5.1220	144	186	First Sec Inv	206	-2	7.4	3.6
1.7330-1.7680	245	194	First Union Gen	226		3.4	4.1
	410	323	First Union Gen	378	-2	3.4	4.1

[illegible]

152.30-152.40	1174	94	Gt Japan Inv	145	..	5.4b	3.5
1644-1646	470	310	Gcn Funds 'Ord'	468	+3	12.9	2.7
7.5920-7.5970	470	290	D Conv	465
6.1690-6.1770	187	90	Gcn Inv & Tots	151	..	5.4b	3.5
10.950-7.9.980	152	122	Gcn Securities	116	..	14.1	2.8
223.97-233.47	233	194	Globe Trust	193	-2	2.4	3.3
15.71-16.72	430	226	Gretnair	243	..	3.3	0.8
2.1890-2.1875	270	170	Gresham Hse	150	-5	5.7	3.0
	98	127	Hambros	136	..	4.9	3.9
	207	183	Ind Inv	184

US 90-9006-0.0011	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	
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83	574	Mouthans Trust	76		
137	88	Moaths	123	-1	3.4 4.5
85	88	Murray Cai	88		3.4 2.7
91	959	Do 'B'	91	+2	4.9 3.1
80	59	Murray Clyde	70		
75	75	Do 'B'	67	-1	
250	121	Murray Glen	75		4.5 1.8
154	87	Murray N'and	146		3.9 0.5
148	82	Do 'B'	145		
100	77	Murray West	90	-2	3.0 3.3

AT 1972 Do'B' 87

AT 1972 Do'B' 87

[illegible][illegible]

month	9 1/2-9 3/4	12 months 9 1/2-9 3/4	
Secondary Mkt. SCD Rates (%)			
month	9 1/2-9 3/4	6 months 9 3/4-10	* Ireland
month	9 1/2-9 3/4	12 months 9 1/2-9 3/4	* Canada
Local Authority Market (%)			
month	9 1/2-9 3/4	6 months 9 1/2-9 3/4	
month	9 1/2-9 3/4	1 year 9 1/2	
Interbank Market (%)			
overnight	Open 9 1/4	Close 9 1/4	
week	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 months 9 1/4-9 1/2	
month	9 1/4-9 1/2	12 months 9 1/4-9 1/2	
First Claim Finance House (Mkt. Rate)	month 9 1/2	6 months 9 1/4	
Finance House Base Rate 9 1/4			

2,180.0-2,187.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,187.5-2,195.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,195.0-2,202.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,202.5-2,210.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,210.0-2,217.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,217.5-2,225.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,225.0-2,232.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,232.5-2,240.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,240.0-2,247.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,247.5-2,255.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,255.0-2,262.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,262.5-2,270.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,270.0-2,277.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,277.5-2,285.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,285.0-2,292.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,292.5-2,300.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,300.0-2,307.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,307.5-2,315.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,315.0-2,322.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,322.5-2,330.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,330.0-2,337.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,337.5-2,345.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,345.0-2,352.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,352.5-2,360.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,360.0-2,367.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,367.5-2,375.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,375.0-2,382.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,382.5-2,390.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,390.0-2,397.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,397.5-2,405.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,405.0-2,412.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,412.5-2,420.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,420.0-2,427.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,427.5-2,435.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,435.0-2,442.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,442.5-2,450.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,450.0-2,457.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,457.5-2,465.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,465.0-2,472.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,472.5-2,480.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,480.0-2,487.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,487.5-2,495.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,495.0-2,502.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,502.5-2,510.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,510.0-2,517.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,517.5-2,525.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,525.0-2,532.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,532.5-2,540.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,540.0-2,547.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,547.5-2,555.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,555.0-2,562.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,562.5-2,570.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,570.0-2,577.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,577.5-2,585.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,585.0-2,592.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,592.5-2,600.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,600.0-2,607.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,607.5-2,615.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,615.0-2,622.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,622.5-2,630.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,630.0-2,637.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,637.5-2,645.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,645.0-2,652.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,652.5-2,660.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,660.0-2,667.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,667.5-2,675.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,675.0-2,682.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,682.5-2,690.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,690.0-2,697.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,697.5-2,705.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,705.0-2,712.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,712.5-2,720.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,720.0-2,727.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,727.5-2,735.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,735.0-2,742.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,742.5-2,750.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,750.0-2,757.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,757.5-2,765.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,765.0-2,772.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,772.5-2,780.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,780.0-2,787.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,787.5-2,795.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,795.0-2,802.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,802.5-2,810.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,810.0-2,817.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,817.5-2,825.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,825.0-2,832.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,832.5-2,840.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,840.0-2,847.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,847.5-2,855.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,855.0-2,862.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,862.5-2,870.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,870.0-2,877.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,877.5-2,885.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,885.0-2,892.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,892.5-2,900.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,900.0-2,907.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,907.5-2,915.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,915.0-2,922.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,922.5-2,930.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,930.0-2,937.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,937.5-2,945.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,945.0-2,952.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,952.5-2,960.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,960.0-2,967.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,967.5-2,975.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,975.0-2,982.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,982.5-2,990.0	230	154	Greenbush
2,990.0-2,997.5	230	154	Greenbush
2,997.5-3,005.0	230	154	Greenbush

oted in US \$900 e.s.011

\$ Deposits

90% seven days, 90% 90% three months, 100% months, 100% 100%

230	154	Greenbush
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1979	-	121	3.3	103	45	For Housing
1980	-	121	3.3	103	45	For Housing
1981	-	5	3.0	87	36	Godwin Warren
1982	-	5	3.0	87	36	Godwin Warren
1983	-	5	3.0	87	36	Godwin Warren
1984	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1985	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1986	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1987	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1988	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1989	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1990	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1991	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1992	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1993	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1994	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1995	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1996	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1997	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1998	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
1999	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2000	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2001	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2002	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2003	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2004	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2005	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2006	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2007	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2008	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2009	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2010	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2011	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2012	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2013	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2014	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2015	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2016	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2017	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2018	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2019	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2020	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2021	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2022	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2023	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2024	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2025	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2026	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2027	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2028	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2029	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2030	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2031	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2032	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2033	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2034	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2035	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2036	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2037	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2038	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2039	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin
2040	-	10	3.5	147	113	Micro Bulletin

-2	3.0	7.4	7.8
-2	2.9	7.3	7.7
-2	2.8b	7.3	7.6
-2	2.7	7.3	7.6
-2	2.6	7.3	7.6
-2	2.5	7.3	7.6
-2	2.4	7.3	7.6
-2	2.3	7.3	7.6
-2	2.2	7.3	7.6
-2	2.1	7.3	7.6
-2	2.0	7.3	7.6
-2	1.9	7.3	7.6
-2	1.8	7.3	7.6
-2	1.7	7.3	7.6
-2	1.6	7.3	7.6
-2	1.5	7.3	7.6
-2	1.4	7.3	7.6
-2	1.3	7.3	7.6
-2	1.2	7.3	7.6
-2	1.1	7.3	7.6
-2	1.0	7.3	7.6
-2	0.9	7.3	7.6
-2	0.8	7.3	7.6
-2	0.7	7.3	7.6
-2	0.6	7.3	7.6
-2	0.5	7.3	7.6
-2	0.4	7.3	7.6
-2	0.3	7.3	7.6
-2	0.2	7.3	7.6
-2	0.1	7.3	7.6
-2	0.0	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.1	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.2	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.3	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.4	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.5	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.6	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.7	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.8	7.3	7.6
-2	-0.9	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.0	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.1	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.2	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.3	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.4	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.5	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.6	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.7	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.8	7.3	7.6
-2	-1.9	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.0	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.1	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.2	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.3	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.4	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.5	7.3	7.6
-2	-2.6	7.3	7.6
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-2	-4.0	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.1	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.2	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.3	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.4	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.5	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.6	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.7	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.8	7.3	7.6
-2	-4.9	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.0	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.1	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.2	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.3	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.4	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.5	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.6	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.7	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.8	7.3	7.6
-2	-5.9	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.0	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.1	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.2	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.3	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.4	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.5	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.6	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.7	7.3	7.6
-2	-6.8	7.3	7.6
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dividend + Current

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Revenue savages gilt-edged market

The Treasury and the Inland Revenue have combined to strike a sickening blow at the revenues of building societies. It will make the gilt-edged market throw up this morning and turn banks and other financial institutions pale with apprehension as they contemplate the Budget on March 13.

Without waiting for Budget ritual, the Revenue has blandly and out of the blue, informed building societies that with immediate effect they will be taxed at their special rate of 40 per cent on gains made in dealing in government and similar securities.

Building societies hold perhaps as much as a quarter of all short-dated gilt-edged stocks and significant amounts of later maturities. They have been a sturdy pillar supporting the market in government debt, to a role they have been encouraged to play not least by the official tailoring of issues to suit their particular requirements. For their part building societies have enjoyed the role. Though their capital gains are liable to normal capital gains tax, the maximum rate is 30 per cent, they have generally avoided paying any such tax by holding stock for more than a year when they automatically become exempt from CGT. Gains from gilts have been a splendid source of income expanding the funds for mortgage lending in secure and generally trouble-free ways.

Building societies paid £117m in tax in the last year for which figures are available (1981-82). If the 40 per cent charge had been in force they would have paid an extra £120m.

The Revenue's decision, which is based on "legal advice" that gilt-edged gains are properly part of building societies' trading profits, brings them in line with the way banks are taxed on their gilt profits. The Revenue claims that its action has no implications for other institutions operating in the gilt-edged market. But it will have wide-ranging implications for both building societies and for the market in government stocks.

At the Abbey National, Britain's second biggest society, Mr James Tyrrell, general manager finance, said he had read the announcement with "total incredulity."

From tomorrow morning we are going to talking about a totally different strategy in the gilt market. We are not taking this lying down."

Abbey National made gains of £12m in 1982 and considerably more in 1983, while Nationwide made investment profits of £46.5m last year, largely free of tax. Halifax, the biggest building society, also announced recently that a large part of its surplus in the year to January 30 came from gilt-edged profits.



Petherbridge: key role in Bank liaison

Stepping down

Mr Richard Petherbridge retires today after a remarkable 40 years with Union Discount. He rose to the position of senior managing director with Union, and was chairman of the London Discount Market Association during some of the most turbulent spells the money market has ever experienced. As such, he played a key role in liaising with the Bank of England.

In his more reflective moods, the gentle and genial Mr Petherbridge has been heard to compare managing the daily ups and downs of the discount market with driving an express train: just as well, then, that in his retirement he can indulge his weakness for steam engines.

Bank has lessons for industry

Two blasts from the Bank of England on successive days are, to put it mildly, unusual. But there is a logical progression from the remarks made by the deputy governor on Wednesday to the governor's speech yesterday. Mr Christopher McMahon was urging British companies to use their rebuilt profits wisely, by which he meant for productive investment rather than allowing costs to rise. Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, speaking to the National Association of Pension Funds, was urging institutional investors to use their influence on companies to ensure the same result.

Although yesterday's new figures for capital spending show a marked improvement towards the end of last year, in manufacturing they are still historically low. To some extent this reflects the shift from manufacturing to services in the economy as a whole.

The governor's arguments yesterday concerned the role of shareholders in promoting industrial health. Through their influence on the membership of company boards, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said, with a side-swipe at EEC draft directives on the composition of company boards, the institutional investors can and

should take some responsibility for industrial performance.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton, like Mr McMahon, was concerned that in existing companies, "the hard-won gains of the last few years are not frittered away."

The governor's conclusion is that institutional investors should be ready to "hypothecate" part of their budgets for high technology investment. He was careful to make it plain that he was not suggesting any fixed proportion; even so, is there any point in such exhortations? The Bank can hint the banking system in preferred directions, away from excessive mortgage lending, for example, because of the vested powers it possesses to make life uncomfortable for the wayward.

Industrial companies, even pension funds, are outside the Bank's traditional grip. Yet its reach has been extended during the past recession, when it orchestrated many a bank rescue of ailing companies - in effect, running the Government's industrial policy on the quiet. Perhaps this has given the Bank new authority to make powerful suggestions to industry - suggestions to which industry may feel obliged to listen.

ICI profits surge by £360m, but shares marked lower

By William Kay, City Editor

Imperial Chemical Industries sent the London stock market tumbling yesterday when it announced annual profit figures below analysts' best expectations. At one stage the Financial Times 30-share index was down 10.3 at 806.1, although it later recovered to 806.9.

However, to all but the most demanding the ICI results were excellent. Pretax profits rose from £259m to £619m on sales £898m higher at £8,256m. The final dividend is 14p, making a total up from 19p to 24p.

Nevertheless the ICI share price was cut from 602p to 576p by mid-afternoon. The shares later recovered to 586p.

An angry Mr John Harvey-Jones, ICI's chairman, told *The Times*: "I think the market had

gone off its rocker with forecasts of up to £700m. There was no way we could have made that, or anything like it. I am sorry it I have disappointed some of the starry-eyed optimists, but last year's result was a tremendous improvement and I am confident that we shall do well again this year."

The best contributor to the improvement was the petrochemicals plastics division, which cut its trading loss from £139m to £7m. Pharmaceutical profits rose by £61m to £199m, general chemicals by £47m to £107m and agriculture by £10m to £174m.

In an interview after yesterday's board meeting Mr Harvey-Jones said that about half the improvement had come from the company's own efforts, a

quarter from increased world demand and a quarter from the lower exchange rate's windfall effect on profit margins. The group generated £500m of cash, which was used to reduce gearing.

He added that there was still plenty to be squeezed out of improved efficiency. "We are working at only 80 per cent of capacity," he said, "so we could increase output considerably with the same workforce."

He does in fact look forward to another two years of strong growth in the company. "We have been looking at 1985 and 1986 as the years of the world economic downturn," he said. "In that context, I am pretty sure we can grow in 1984 and 1985, and some parts of the business will continue to grow

after that, but the downturn will begin to take hold."

ICI still harbours ambitions to expand in the US, but the chairman's view is that it would be best to wait until the bottom of the next trough. Analysts were last night sticking to their 1984 predictions for the group - profits of between £600m and £860m. This would put the shares on a price/earnings ratio of 7.

● NCR Ltd: Year to Nov. 30, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 125,090 (116,748). Pretax profit 26,418 (23,735). The company enters 1984 with a substantial order book and this, together with other factors promises significant growth for 1984. Company is a fully-owned offshoot of NCR Corp.

Wall Street drifts down

Stocks drifted lower on moderate volume, on Wall Street yesterday when the Dow Jones industrial average was down about 4 points.

Volume was about 41 million shares. Declines were about 8- to 5 ahead of advances. The US Commerce Department said new factory orders for durable goods rose an adjusted 1.1 per cent last month from the preceding month. The news, however, had little effect on the lack lustre market.

Technology stocks, which had a rally on Wednesday, lost most of their gains. IBM was down 1/2 at 108 1/2. Teledyne was off 1 1/2 at 157 1/2, and NCR Corp. was off 1 at 110 1/2.

Time-share was up 1 1/2 to 15 1/2. PepsiCo, which is considering withdrawing from the transportation business, was up 1/2 to 36 1/2. General Instrument which renegotiated its takeover of Tocom, was down 1 1/2 to 25 1/2. Tocom was down 1/2 at 2 1/2.

STOCK EXCHANGES

SE 100 Index: 1043 down 1.4 (day's high: 1042.1; low 1031.7)
FT Index: 806.9 down 9.5
FT Gilts: 82.96
FT All Share: 489.89 down 4.13
Bargains: 22.660
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1129.71 down 4.50
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9939.56 down 8.15
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1067.29 up 20.07
Amsterdam: 163.9 down 2.2
Sydney: AO Index 745.5 up 1.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.4625 up 1.15 cents
Index 82.7 up 0.3
DM 3.8825 up 0.0250
FF 1.9525 up 0.0375
Yen 341.50 up 3.0
Dollar Index 128.0 down 0.1
DM 2.6545 down 82pts

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.4585
Dollar DM 2.6575
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.577993
SDR £0.725210

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$339.75 pm \$398.25
close \$397.75-\$398.50 (£272-£272.75)
New York (latest): \$397.75
Kruggerand (per coin): \$410.411 (£280.50-£281.50)
Sovereigns (new): \$93.94 (£63.50-£64.25)
Excludes VAT

Crown Agents' survival ensured

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The future of the Crown Agents was finally settled yesterday after months of uncertainty when the Government announced that it had decided to back the survival plan drawn up by the 151-year-old organization.

This will involve at least 250 redundancies among the 1,300 staff, the sale of its grandiose Georgian headquarters in London and a commitment to investigate ways of achieving the Crown Agents' eventual privatization.

The announcement that the Government has agreed to give the agents a further lease of life was made in the House of Commons yesterday by Mr Timothy Raison, the Minister for Overseas Development. It

followed a protracted debate in Whitehall about the best way of treating the Crown Agents after its loss last summer of a lucrative contract to manage the investment funds of the Sultan of Brunei.

Mr Raison said the Government's decision to allow us to continue the work which we undertake on behalf of 1,200 overseas Government departments, public bodies and international agencies.

Although the Foreign Office and the Overseas Development Administration have supported the case for the Agents' survival, the Treasury is believed to have led the campaign within Whitehall arguing that it should either be abolished or privatized.

Plan for US trustee at Reuters

By Our City Staff

Reuters Trustees are to appoint a prominent member of American public life to their ranks once the news agency and business information group is floated in May. It will be the first US involvement in Reuters.

The number of Trustees will be raised by four to 14 - but not all the extra places will be taken at once. Three will definitely be filled, one by an American and the other two by British public figures.

The American appointment will reflect the number of US investors who are expected to buy Reuters shares. Of the additional British Trustees, one has already agreed to stand.

Lord Hartwell, who leads the Daily Telegraph Ltd, is chairman of a sub-committee of Trustees recommending appointments.

He said: "We can't give any names yet because they have not formally been agreed. I expect they will be in the prospectus. We are looking for people who know something about agencies and the media, but who have a reputation for achievement in other fields."

Two other new names will take their places after the end of next month, they will be replacing Mr Angus McLachlan, the Trustee chairman, who represents the Australian Press, but has suffered ill-health recently and Mr Geoffrey Upton of New Zealand News Ltd. He acted as chairman at Tuesday's Trustees' meeting which agreed fresh proposals to keep Reuters independent.

There is still no progress from the entrenched positions taken by the Reuters Board and the big pension funds and insurance companies. The financial institutions are objecting to the issue of one class of share, carrying a majority of the total votes held by the newspaper owners of Reuters and not traded. The shares being sold to the public have only one vote each.

As a result, the share issue may have to be underwritten in America where Reuters also intends to obtain a listing. The EEC's Fifth Directive: currently working its way through the British system, effectively outlaws non-voting shares unless member-countries state otherwise.

Burmah strikes oil in North Sea's deepest well

By Philip Robinson

Burmah Oil Exploration, the operator and significant stakeholder in North Sea block 22/2, has struck oil drilling the deepest well yet on the British Continental Shelf.

Tests have indicated a total fluid rate of 4,500 barrels-a-day and an oil flow rate of 2,500 barrels a day.

The well was started last June after Burmah, Charterhouse Petroleum, Svenska Petroleum Exploration and Norsk Hydro Petroleum, acting as a consortium, were awarded rights to the block for £5m in the seventh round of North Sea licences.

Burmah's claim that the 18,030 feet drilling below the Kelly Bushing - the starting point for deep sea measurements - was the deepest, was confirmed by the Department of Energy. However, the department could not say by how much the depth was increased on the previous record.

Burmah is evaluating the results of drilling in the block which is 150 miles north east of Aberdeen and 14 miles north east of the Forties Field.

Plessey success continues

Nine Months' Results

An extract from The Plessey Company's unaudited consolidated results

	13 weeks ended 30 Dec 1983	39 weeks ended 30 Dec 1983	39 weeks ended 31 Dec 1982
● Group sales up 19.6%			
● Pre-tax profits up 22.2%			
● Earnings per share up 27.4%			
Sales	288,908	872,096	729,027
Operating profit	37,203	103,221	82,251
Profit before tax	43,670	124,601	102,000
Earnings per share (pence)	3.62p	9.71p	7.62p

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ladbroke lifts bid

Ladbroke Group has increased its offer for Turi Paradise in the US from \$7 to \$8.75 per share in return for a board recommendation. Shareholders in Turi Paradise, who own 32 per cent of the shares, have agreed to tender their shares.

● The Asian Development Bank's issues of £100m 10% per cent loan stock 2009 has been oversubscribed. Applications will be scaled down. Amounts for £10,000 will be allocated in full. Applicants for between £20,000 and £40,000 will get £10,000, from £50,000 to £100,000 will get £12,500 and from £200,000 to £300,000 will receive £25,000.

● New orders received by US manufacturers for durable goods rose \$1.06 billion (£746m) or 1.1 per cent, in January to a seasonally adjusted \$99.22 billion.

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/2 - 9
3 month interbank 9 1/2 - 9 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/2 - 10 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/2 - 5 1/2
3 month Fr 11 1/2 - 11 1/2

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/2
Treasury long bond 98 3/4 - 98 3/4

ECOD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 4, 1984 to February 7, 1984 inclusive: 9.493 per cent.

Beecham buys 'entry' to Italy for £42.3m

By Our City Staff

Beecham has plugged the only gap in its worldwide pharmaceutical marketing network by buying a big Italian drugs company, the 120-year-old Dr L Zambelletti, for £42.3m cash.

Italy is the fifth biggest pharmaceutical market in the world but Beecham has not sold its drugs there except through licensing arrangements. Under Italian law pharmaceutical companies must have a local manufacturing base before selling their product.

Sir Graham Wilkins, Bee-

cham's chairman, said yesterday that the acquisition was mainly for the opportunity it gave Beecham to enter the Italian market rather than for Zambelletti's manufacturing business.

Zambelletti is publicly quoted in Italy but Beecham has acquired the 83.8 per cent of the shares which were in the hands of the Zambelletti family. Beecham has previously suffered in Italy from the lack of patent protection which allowed local manufacturers to copy its products.

Institute fears recovery may fade next year

Call for expansionary Budget

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A plea for a "moderately expansionary" Budget directed at measures to boost investment in manufacturing industry and the public sector has come from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, the independent forecasting group.

In its February *Economic Review* published yesterday, the institute says that low investment is not only holding back the recovery, but also threatens to impair longer term growth.

The institute expects growth of 2.2 per cent this year, the same as last year and slight improvement on its forecast of three months ago, mainly because it is more optimistic about consumer spending. The discrepancy between this and the Treasury's 3 per cent growth forecast is less than it seems because they are using different measures of gross domestic product.

● But the institute foresees the recovery fading next year, with growth of only 1.5 per cent, unemployment rising to 3.2 million by Christmas 1985 after sticking at 3.0 million this year and inflation accelerating to 6.8 per cent by the end of 1983 and to 7.8 per cent a year later from about 5 per cent today.

The review says that the lacklustre recovery so far has mainly reflected inadequate investment. The other components of demand in the economy - consumer spending, government consumption and exports - are all higher than they were before the recession, but investment is still much lower, it says. Echoing the remarks on Wednesday by Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, the review goes on: "In the longer term, lack of new capacity may make it impossible to retain a

high level of employment or climb back on to the previous trend of growth."

The institute, lining up behind the industry, urges the Chancellor to reduce, or abolish, the National Insurance Surcharge which it says would stimulate investment and stock building, reduce inflation and help jobs by lowering labour costs.

● Manufacturing investment picked up sharply in the final quarter of last year, the first significant increase since the recession began. From the third to fourth quarters, investment rose by 4.2 per cent, though in 1983 as a whole it was 6.8 per cent lower than the previous year. By contrast, investment in construction, distribution and financial services surged to record levels last year, up 8.4 per cent from 1982.

www

PLESSEY

The Plessey Company plc, Vicarage Lane, Ilford, Essex IG1 4AQ.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling closed above 1.46 dollars for the first time since November 30, 1.15 cents better than overnight at 1.4625, with increased Middle East hostilities again raising fears about oil supplies.

The pound's trade-weighted index closed at 82.7. Dealers said trade was hectic as speculators began to see attractions in sterling's petro-currency status, and joined corporate and commercial buyers covering short positions.

The dollar continued to slide despite the revision of the December US durable goods figures by 1.5 per cent, in addition to the expected January increase.

At one point the dollar dipped to 2.6430 marks before recovering to 2.6545, down 80 points on the day and 4% centimes down against French francs at 8.17.

Closing below 3 guilders for the first time in many months at 2.9960, the US unit also slipped 35 points on Swiss francs at 2.1865.

MONEY MARKETS

The Bank of England relieved a £400m shortage yesterday, although the market again struggled to find saleable paper.

The authorities provided £44m of assistance, with purchases of £162m of bank bills across the four hands, sale and repurchase arrangements, involving £251m of bills to next Monday, at rates of interest of 10% per cent, and £30m of late lending to the market.

Secured rates had stayed firm at 9 to 9 1/2 per cent, until completion of the bank's programme of aid when houses were able to pick up funds as low as 5 per cent. Closing balances were mostly taken in a range of 5 to 7 per cent.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Taubman stays silent on Fraser bid

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Feb 13. Dealings end today. Contango Day, Feb 27. Settlement Day, March 5.

Mr Alfred Taubman, the international art dealer and owner of Sotheby's auction house, refused to confirm or deny yesterday that he is the American investor preparing to make a takeover bid for the House of Fraser stores group.

From New York, Mr Bernard Winograd, the man close to Mr Taubman during the Sotheby bid, said: "There have been a number of stories and this has become the most prominent. We can neither confirm nor deny these suggestions."

House of Fraser shares dropped 6p to 286p yesterday on fears that 500,000 shares were overhanging the market. Fraser's price had been breaking new records earlier this week.

Mr Philip Hawley, of the retailing group Carter Hawley Hale, has already denied his company might be interested in bidding. Mr Hawley is a former director of House of Fraser, but resigned in 1982.

Meanwhile, Mr Paul Spicer, a director of Lohr, which owns just under a third of Fraser shares, said: "All we are saying is that we have had a number of people interested in our stake."

Favourite rumour in the market is that Lohr will sell its Fraser stake to a potential Fraser predator in return for buying back the Harrods flag-ship store later on. Lohr's price closed off the day's best but up 1p at 15p.

Elsewhere, the long shadow of ICI dominated share prices. The final pretax profits figure of £619m fell short of many optimistic predictions of up to £660m and the market reacted accordingly, wiping 2p off the shares at one stage, before they rallied on cheap buying to close a net 1p down on the day at 15p.

586p. Dealers reported only light selling from New York. A rise of £22.6m to £124.6m in half-year profits from Plessey did little to help sentiment. Shares of Plessey ended the day 14p lower at 206p as one nervous seller unloaded two million shares.

In the event, most leading industrials were marked lower, although selling pressure was described as light with institutional investors still making up their minds as to the market's next move. The FT index closed above its worst level of the day 9.5 down at 806.9, while the Stock Exchange Index of 100 leading companies lost 11.3 to 1031.7.

It has been a good account for shares of Redfern National Glass, the glass and plastic container maker, which rose another 3p to 101p yesterday - for a rise on the account of 14p. Apparently two investors have bought stakes of just under 3 per cent each. Mr John Pratt, chairman and managing director, says he will continue to keep a close eye on the share register.

Government securities spent another quiet day still worried by uncertainty over US interest rates and the American economy. Prices barely stirred from overnight levels with the FT Government Securities Index closing unchanged at 82.96.

However, the weaker dollar prompted further demand for gold with the bullion price increasing Wednesday's gains to break through the \$400 level at one stage. Its high for the day was \$402.50, but it ended only \$3.25 up at \$398 an ounce.

Distillers slipped 1p to 256p following a gloomy picture of prospects painted by broker de Zoete & Bevan. Demand in both the US and Japan has improved, but could not be described as a resumption of growth and both markets are likely to remain dull in 1984.

Investors should be cautious of increased exposure to the fragile US market which the acquisition of Somerset would bring.

Gold producers continued to make the most out of the metal's return to popularity, gaining up to \$4 among the heavyweights before profit taking left prices below their best. Am Gold rose \$2.5 to \$124.25. Buffelstein \$1 to \$65.25. Driefontein \$1 to \$25.12. Driefontein \$1.5 to \$38.5. Kloof \$12.25 to \$53.25. Randfontein \$2 to \$162.5 and Southvaal \$1 to \$66.25. Among the cheaper-priced stocks East Daggafontein rose 15 cents to 565 cents and Loraine 15 cents to 628 cents.

The market's easier trend prompted nervous selling among leading equities with several large lines of stock on offer after hours. Barratt Developments tumbled 8p to 170p as at least on million shares came on offer and Amrks and Spencer lost 2p to 223p as around 500,000 shares came on offer.

Falls were also seen in BICC, 7p to 251p, BTR 6p to 420p, Blue Circle 3p to 415p, Boots 1p to 172p, Bowater 3p to 358p, Courtauld 2p to 138p, GKN 6p to 198p, Glava 12p to 740p, Grand Metropolitan 9p to 346p, Imperial Group 2p to 141p, Lucas Industries 3p to 210p, Thorn EMI 7p to 617p, Trusthouse Forte 3p to 211p and Vickers 1p to 143p.

Distillers slipped 1p to 256p following a gloomy picture of prospects painted by broker de Zoete & Bevan. Demand in both the US and Japan has improved, but could not be described as a resumption of growth and both markets are likely to remain dull in 1984.

Investors should be cautious of increased exposure to the fragile US market which the acquisition of Somerset would bring.

The increased fighting between Iran and Iraq enabled oil shares to rally from a weak start, but prices never recovered their overnight levels. BP closed

2p lower at 428p, after 426p, Shell 2p to 631p, Ultramar 2p to 672p, Lascas 3p to 515p, Telfer Consolidated 15p to 57p, Tricentral 3p to 198p, Clyde Petroleum 2p to 126p and Imperial Continental Gas 3p to 278p. Even Burnish lost 1p at 182p and Charterhouse Petroleum 4p at 139p, despite news of a joint oil find in Block 22/2 in the North Sea.

Commercial Union tried to rally after Wednesday's dismal figures, but after hitting 175p lost ground to end 1p lower on the day at 172p. Nervous selling also hit the rest of the sector with General Accident down 3p at 443p, Guardian Royal 3p at 513p, Phoenix Assurance 5p at 463p, and Royal Insurance 5p at 508p.

Mr Mark Watson-Mitchell, the tipster and publisher, has increased his holding in Reliant, the three-wheel car manufacturer, with an extra 25,000 shares through his private company Minimax. He now owns a total of 375,000 shares (6.96 per cent) of Reliant, unchanged at 37p. Mr Watson-Mitchell also has sizable stakes in three other publicly-quoted companies including VW Thermostats, Job and Harvey & Thompson.

A private company, Hereward Securities, has been buying more shares in Smith Whitworth and now speaks for a total of 862,000 shares.

Mr David Alliances Vantona Vytela yesterday made its expected offer for F Miller (Textiles) in the wake of the failure of the bid from Nottingham Manufacturing. The bid values the Scottish Marks & Spencer supplier at £14.6m against Nottingham's offer of £11m. Vantona's shares were 216p yesterday, down 5p.

Stakis is known to be keen to expand its interests in London and the south-east and already owns a 6.65 per cent stake in Norfolk, but says it is not the buyers of Kennedy Brooks' 7.3 per cent sold earlier this week. Stakis announced this week that it had bought the three-star Grosvenor Hotel in Edinburgh for an undisclosed sum.

The increased fighting between Iran and Iraq enabled oil shares to rally from a weak start, but prices never recovered their overnight levels. BP closed

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Official turnover figures.

Prices in pounds per metric ton.

Silver in pence per troy ounce.

Russett Wolff & Co. Ltd. report.

COPPER HIGH GRADE.

1000-05-1000.

6.130.

STANDARD CATHODES.

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Hestair takes over two job agencies

Quarry, near Cardiff, acquired from British Steel.

Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust Britain's oldest investment trust and, with total net assets of £463m, the largest company within the Foreign and Colonial Management Group, achieved a 34 per cent increase in net asset value per share, to 142.3p over the 12 months ended December 31 1983. Total revenue last year rose from £14.48m to £18.51m.

The directors are recommending a final dividend of 1.625p per share which, together with the interim dividend, makes a total for 1983 of 2.375p per share - a 6 per cent increase over 1982 and the thirteenth consecutive annual increase.

Guilhall Property: Half year to Dec 31, 1983. Figures in £000. Pretax profit on ordinary activities 621 (£555). Guilhall is now a subsidiary of Slough Estates.

Jensens Drilling: Results for 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 57,427 (£59,424). Pretax profit 14,199 (£19,428). No final dividend is being paid, so cutting the year's total from 17.5p to 3.5p a share.

Ward Holdings: Year to Oct 31, 1983. Figures in £000. Turnover 18,109 (£13,103). Pretax profit 2.71p (2.43p). Total dividend 5.19p (4.2p).

Saxon Oil: Half-year to Dec 31, 1983. Turnover £139,000 (£41,000). Pretax profit £422,000 (£85,000).

Scottish Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for three months to Jan 31, 1984, £1.31m (£1.5m).

In brief

Tarmac takeovers: Four acquisitions, together worth about £1.5m have been made by Tarmac Roadstone Holdings - the holding company of the Tarmac Group's quarry products division.

This brings to about £40m the total spent on acquisitions for the division in the last six months. The four are:

South Wales Sand and Gravel, a marine aggregates dredging business in the Bristol Channel.

Joseph Adshad and Son, which operates a sand pit at Chelford, Cheshire.

H. & M. Concrete, which operates a small concrete blockmaking business at Cheshire, North Staffordshire, adjacent to Croxden Quarry acquired by Tarmac last year.

A limestone deposit at Creigiau

WALL STREET

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Jan 19 Jan 18 Jan 17 Jan 16 Jan 15

Jan 14 Jan 13 Jan 12 Jan 11 Jan 10

Jan 9 Jan 8 Jan 7 Jan 6 Jan 5

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Andrew Cornelius reports on GKN's bid for AE

Monopoly ruling could shape future of components industry

The next test of Britain's inconsistent competition policy will come with the decision whether to allow GKN, Kean & Nettlefolds to pursue its takeover attempt for the rival Midlands motor component manufacturer AE (formerly Associated Engineering).

The Monopolies Commission report on the takeover will be delivered to Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, any day now. His recommendation will follow next month.

Meanwhile, the leading companies in Britain's 1984-style leaner and fitter motor components industry await what they regard as a long overdue statement from the Government on main way ahead. Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, sees the report of the Monopolies Commission, and the Trade Secretary's response as crucial for the survival of an industry still smarting from the recession.

The shakeout by component makers has seen an average 40 per cent cut in workforces between 1980 and 1983, and brought companies like Dunlop to their knees.

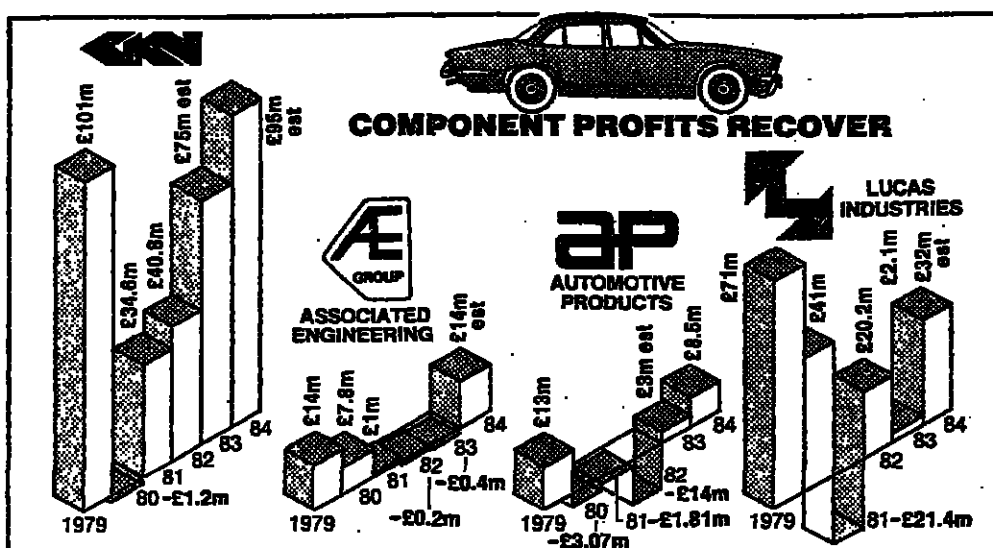
The process has cost GKN alone £200m. For that, the group was able to pay off half its workforce, bringing the number of British employees down to 35,000 and also to change the identity of the group. It is now firmly entrenched as an automotive company and no longer dependent on its broader-based steel, nuts and bolts and engineering businesses.

At AE, Automotive Products, Lucas Industries and smaller companies like Armstrong Equipment the story is much the same. AE's workforce is down by nearly half to 16,000 people. Automotive Products has reduced its British workforce by more than 30 per cent to 8,700 people. Lucas has given warning that it must continue to cut jobs despite the draconian measures taken already and, at Armstrong, two years of rationalization have reduced the workforce by half, to 4,100 people.

The effect on company balance sheets has been devastating. GKN plunged to losses of £1.2m in 1980 against pretax profits of £126m the previous year. The mighty Lucas Industries group, Britain's largest motor components group, last year made losses of £17.2m on components turnover of nearly £1 billion.

At the same time millions of pounds were wiped off the market capitalisation of the motor components sector, leaving companies like Dunlop vulnerable to any group wanting to build up a stake in a buyers' market.

Smaller companies like Armstrong, which manufactures exhausts and suspension struts, were available last year at about £6m, if judged by their market capitalization. Even at today's share levels the company is valued at little more than £12m. And in a recent report of the Lucas group, the brokers Philips and Drew noted that Lucas is valued at less than twice its



annual spending on research and development.

Yet despite the problems, there are signs that the British motor components industry is moving out of the disaster zone. Leading companies are beginning to move out of recession and analysts are forecasting improved profits in the current year in virtually every instance.

Sentiment was helped by the boom in car sales after the introduction of the A-plate registration last autumn. But increasingly the success of individual companies is being judged on their ability to penetrate overseas markets. For Automotive Products, which returned to the black at the halfway stage last year with pretax profits of £1m after losses of £14.1m in 1982, the turning point may have come with the announcement of a £15m-a-year contract to supply clutches and brakes to Fiat in Italy.

Car components industry shows signs of moving out of disaster zone

Most of the parts will be supplied from a factory built by AP at Savona, in north-west Italy. But Mr George Pears, the chairman, says the contract is an essential part of AP's strategy to raise revenue from abroad from 33 per cent to 50 per cent over the next five years.

Armstrong Equipment is also looking for increased profits from abroad, after clinching a deal to supply shock absorbers for a new Volkswagen car to be built in China. The contract could add £1m to profits over the next seven years and will help the company's return to profitability after losses of £1.1m in the year to last July.

The shakeout in the British market also helped to pave the way for the deal by Lucas Industries and Smiths Industries to establish a joint-venture automotive electronics company, Lucas Electrical Electronics & Systems. The new company began trading last April with an anticipated

annual turnover of about £120m and 7,000 employees. The aim is to exploit a European market for electronics components worth £600m this year and likely to grow 30 per cent each year until the 1990s.

The deal sets a useful precedent for GKN in its campaign to win clearance for the AE takeover. Together, Lucas and Smiths have more than 75 per cent of the British market for automotive electronic components like ignition equipment, instrument systems, and display panels and engine management systems. But the new company was established with the support of the Department of Trade and Industry - in the shape of research grants - on the grounds that its share of the European market would be only 20 per cent.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth is puzzled by the apparent change of heart at the DTI in referring the bid for AE for investigation by the Monopolies Commission. Previously the DTI had encouraged any moves to strengthen the British motor components industry so that it could compete on equal terms in a wider market place, he says. In the depths of the recession the Government had been prime mover in bringing about the type of deal proposed by GKN, he suggests.

A merger of GKN and AE clearly warrants an investigation in terms of the monopoly it would create in the supply of bearings, pistons and cylinder linings in Britain. Sir Trevor believes the Government is taking the opportunity to investigate once and for all the merits of defining the market place in European or world terms, rather than purely British.

In some respects he believes GKN has also suffered from changes at the level of secretary of State and top civil servants at the DTI. Almost overnight, years of close contact between GKN and the DTI were broken. The Government appeared to blow cold on its previous enthusiasm for creating a strong British motor components industry, possibly to be encouraged with the carrot of Government aid for restructuring.

Sir Trevor says that if the merger does not go through it

could have potentially disastrous consequences for the British industry. He is adamant that unless the proposed force in engineering which would be created by marrying AE's piston technology with GKN's transmission, axles and marketing skills, one of the companies will eventually die.

"The UK as a market place cannot afford to have too many of anything," he says. "The whole of the US has only two bearings manufacturers."

However, AE has found that there is still considerable hostility among motor manufacturers to the idea of creating a new force in component supply. Mr John Collyear, chairman of AE, estimates that Britain's share of the engine-bearings business in continental Europe would fall from 90 per cent to 60 per cent if the merger went through, as motor manufacturers avoided dependence upon one supplier.

His decision to mount a stiff defence against the takeover after agreeing a merger with GKN before the hostile takeover to the merger was announced has already forced AE to question its own claim that it was a leading technology company.

AE's bid for GKN has been under investigation for about a month. The DTI has been investigating the course for about £140m against £40m in 1983.

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STC names main board newcomers

Standard Telephones and Cables, director of STC Telecommunications, and Mr Jim Uterson, managing director of STC Communications International, have joined the main board.

Holt Lloyd: Mr C. R. Hunt has resigned from the board of Holt Lloyd International but joins the board of Holt Lloyd Ltd, the group's main British subsidiary next Monday, as director in charge of product distribution and administration.

Pork Farms: Mr Mike Wyatt is now sales and marketing director. Frizzell Group: Mr K. B. Othson, managing director and chief executive of F. Bolton (Holdings), has joined the board.



Mr Colin Storms (above) has joined the board of Guinness as personal director.

Credit Commercial de France (Securities): Mr Alain Fiorucci has been appointed managing director and chief executive.

Rank Hovis McDougall: Mr Patrick Best has become a non-executive director. W. S. Atkins Group: Mr Joe Vincent has joined the board of Atkins Inspection Services and Mr Graham Law the board of Atkins Laboratories.

Newspapers Group: Major-General P. Blum becomes a director. Doherty Park Industries: Following the acquisition of Britains Ltd, Mr G. J. Chibbett has been appointed chairman of that company. The previous chairman, Mr J. H. Thake, remains on the board in a consultative capacity. Mr Peter Lamb continues as managing director.

Anglo Nordic Holdings: Mr Tony Bell, director and general manager of Standen Engineering, is appointed managing

director of Standen. At Leonard Mansley, Mr Keith Lowe is director and general manager. At made managing director. At Bowler Brothers (Clitheroe), Mr Chris Gregory, sales and marketing manager, becomes sales and marketing director and Ms Maureen Goldsmith, accounts office manager, is appointed administration director.

Both and Portland Group: Mr G. T. Robinson has joined the board.

Gill & Duffus Group: Mr John Barnes, a director, has been made deputy chief executive on his retirement in June. Mr Winthrop Wynman has joined the board, responsible for group activities in the US.

J. W. Spear & Sons: Mr Cyril J. Jones has been appointed a director.

Commercial Union 12 MONTHS REVIEW

to 31st December 1983

The Board announces an unaudited operating profit before taxation for 1983 of £9.3m (1982 £11.5m). This result is after making a special provision of \$50m (£34.5m) and a reinsurance arrangement in the United States described below which we consider prudent in view of contingencies that may arise in the present uncertain conditions there. The results reported in sterling were £10.3m less than they would otherwise have been because of changes in exchange rates.

Adverse weather affected most major territories and a break-even result was produced in the last quarter before the impact of the special provision in the United States.

There continues to be substantial potential for improvement in our results arising from all the remedial action that has been taken in the last two years.

Allowing for taxation (which reflects releases from prior year provisions) and minorities and taking account of realised investment gains, the profit attributable to shareholders was £22.0m (1982 £24.6m, before the balance of life profits 1979/81 and reorganisation costs amounting in total to £15.3m).

PREMIUM INCOME

Life

Non-life

	1983	1982
£m	£m	£m
Life	400.8	370.1
Non-life	1,884.2	1,808.0
	2,285.0	2,178.1

12 MONTHS REVIEW

	1983	1982
£m	£m	£m
United States	128.0	114.9
United Kingdom	39.4	38.3
Netherlands	25.2	33.6
Canada	22.1	33.9
Rest of the World	11.9	28.5
	226.6	249.2

The published profit and loss account will be presented to show operating results after taxation, and to include realised investment gains (shown above) as part of the profit attributable to shareholders. Additionally, in the Netherlands all investment income earned on shareholders' funds in the company is now reported under life profits, whereas previously it was included with investment income. The effect of this change is to increase life profits and reduce investment income by £8.5m, with 1982 being adjusted accordingly by £7.4m.

Premium income

World-wide non-life premium income, in sterling terms, increased by 4% (1982 19%). However, after allowing for the changes in rates of exchange, premiums were slightly lower in 1983 (1982 growth 8%). Competition in non-life insurance remained intense.

Investment income

Investment income net of loan interest increased by 27%. After allowing for the effect of changes in rates of exchange the underlying increase was 2% (1982 16%).

United States

In the United States, non-life premium income fell by 12% in 1983 (1982 increase 8%), reflecting the loss of 2% of premium income due to the implementation of strict underwriting standards. The statutory operating ratio was 100% (1982 92%), made up of a claims ratio to earned premiums of 88% (1982 86.0%), and an expense ratio to written premiums of 34.5% (1982 34.5%). These ratios reflect the special reinsurance provision of \$50m referred to above. Weather losses were at an even higher level than in 1982 and included hurricane Alicia, which cost the company over £7m, together with substantial winter losses in December.

Commercial lines experience continued to be adverse, but positive lines showed improved experience.

As well as making direct additions to provisions for outstanding claims in 1983 we have further strengthened our position by means of a reinsurance arrangement. We have bought aggregate excess of loss reinsurance cover of \$200m at a cost of \$98m, which has enabled us to increase the provisions for outstanding claims by \$100m. This reinsurance, the cover of which has been charged to incurred claims, has had no effect on 1983 earnings but future investment income will be reduced because the cash paid at the end of 1983 for reinsurance cover has reduced invested funds. Including this \$100m and the \$50m referred to above, the total amounts available to cover claims development in the United States have effectively been increased to \$350m in 1983, a year in which premium income fell by 12%.

United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, adverse trading conditions due to excess market entry continued. The deteriorating experience in the commercial classes was arrested in 1983, but the early promise of an improvement in the domestic classes, based on mild weather in the first part of 1983, was not sustained partly as a result of adverse trading later in the year. Non-life premium growth was 9% (1982 19%).

Netherlands

In the Netherlands, the overall result was satisfactory but a deterioration in the underwriting result occurred in most of the

The results of the Company's operations have, as usual, been converted at the rates of exchange prevailing at the close of the periods reported. These were as follows:

	1983	1982
United States	£1.45	£1.62
Netherlands	£1.45	£1.42
Canada	£1.60	£2.00

This announcement does not constitute full accounts for the year. Copies of the full accounts, which have not yet been reported upon by the Auditors, will be circulated to shareholders on 22 March 1984 and delivered to the Registrar of Companies after approval at the Annual General Meeting which will be held on 16 April 1984.



Commercial Union
Assurance Company plc

ICI in 1983

Good profits recovery-dividend up

The Board of Directors of Imperial Chemical Industries PLC announce the following trading results of the Group for the year 1983 subject to completion of the audit, with comparative figures for 1982

ICI Group financial highlights

Group means ICI and its subsidiaries. £m means millions of pounds sterling.

	1983	1982
£m	£m	£m
Sales to customers outside the Group		
Chemicals - UK	2,184	2,030
- overseas	5,264	4,402
Oil	808	926
Total turnover	8,256	7,358
Trading profit	693	366
Profit before taxation	619	259
Net profit attributable to parent company, before extraordinary items	397	145
Earnings (before extraordinary items) per £1 Ordinary Stock	65.3p	24.2p
Dividends per £1 Ordinary Stock	24.0p	19.0p

Trading results for the first quarter of 1984 will be announced on Thursday 26 April 1984.



Imperial Chemical Industries PLC

THE SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY

109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5SR

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 101st Annual General Meeting of the Members of The Scottish Mutual Assurance Society will be held in the Central Hotel, Gordon Street, Glasgow, on Wednesday 21st March 1984 at 12.15 p.m. to approve the Accounts, Balance Sheet and Reports of the Directors and Auditors, to re-elect Directors and to fix the remuneration of the Auditors.

Prints of the Society's Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet and Directors' Report can be obtained by Members at the Head Office of the Society or at any of its Branch Offices. A Member of the Society entitled to attend and vote at any General Meeting is entitled to appoint another person (who need not be a Member of the Society) to attend and vote instead of him. Proxies must be lodged at the Head Office of the Society not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the Meeting.

The attention of Members wishing to attend is drawn to Regulations 5, 22 and 24 of The Scottish Mutual Assurance Society Act 1952.

By Order of the Board, W. McCORKINDALE, Secretary.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	10.10%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Net Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposit on terms of notice. £10,000, 6.75%, £25,000 up to £50,000, 6.9%, £50,000 and over, 7.1%.

مركز الاستثمار

Court of Appeal

Doctor's duty to inform patient of risk

Sidaway v Board of Governors of the Bethlem Royal Hospital and the Maudsley Hospital and Others

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson. [Judgment delivered February 23]

The definition of the duty of care of a doctor regarding the disclosure of information to his patient was a matter for the law and the courts. The duty was fulfilled if the doctor acted in accordance with a practice rightly accepted as proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men.

The Master of the Rolls so stated when the Court of Appeal in reserved judgments dismissed the appeal of the plaintiff, Mrs Mary Doris Sidaway, of East Dulwich, London, from Mr Justice Skinner's dismissal on February 19, 1982 of her claim for damages for personal injury and loss as a result of an operation carried out by Mr Murray A. Falconer, deceased, in the course of his engagement as a neuro-surgical consultant with the Governors of the Bethlem Hospital and the Maudsley Hospital, the first defendants.

The second defendants were sued as the executors of Mr Falconer. Mrs Sidaway had claimed that the operation which had been proposed to, accepted and undergone by her carried an inherent specific risk of damage to the spinal cord which had been the defendant's duty to disclose to her; that she had not been informed of that risk; that she would not have consented to the operation had she been told of the existence of the risk; and that during the operation the supply of blood to her spinal cord was obstructed and she suffered damage.

Leave was granted to appeal to the House of Lords. Mr Leslie Joseph, QC and Mr Gerald Rabe for the plaintiff, Mr Adrian Whitfield, QC and Miss Nicola Davies for the defendants. The Master of the Rolls said that medicine was not, and never had been, an exact science. Despite the existence of the greatest skill, things could go wrong as they had in the case of Mrs Sidaway. She underwent an operation for the relief of pain and ended up severely disabled.

The issue was whether she should have been more fully informed of the risks before she agreed to the operation. The judge had held that if she had been more fully informed, she would not have agreed to undergo the operation. But he also held that she had been told as much as any patient would have been told by many responsible, skilled and experienced neuro-surgeons. That, he held, was all in law she was entitled to expect and he dismissed her claim.

In 1958 Mrs Sidaway injured an elbow and as a result, suffered persistent pain. When that had been relieved she experienced pain in her neck and right shoulder.

She was referred to Mr Falconer, a neuro-surgeon at the Maudsley Hospital, who correctly diagnosed a narrowing of the spinal column between the

fifth and sixth vertebrae. An operation in December 1960 was successful. Mrs Sidaway described Mr Falconer as "a man of very few words".

In 1973 the pain recurred and Mr Falconer invited her to attend his out-patient clinic. He decided to do a further operation which took place in October 1974.

The operation consisted of a laminectomy of the fourth cervical vertebra and a facetectomy or foraminotomy of the disc space between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae.

The judge had found that the operation "carried an inherent risk that, even if the surgeon exercised proper care and skill, the spinal cord might be damaged... The risk was a material one... a 1 to 2 per cent risk of ill effects ranging from the mild to the catastrophic."

The risk of damage to the spinal cord appeared to be much less than that to the root of a nerve. But the consequences of damage to the spinal column were very much more serious. In Mrs Sidaway's case whatever went wrong produced a severe impairment on her right side and some ill effects on the left. Her loss had been assessed at £67,000.

The judge had concluded that Mr Falconer did not tell Mrs Sidaway that it was an operation of choice or an "elective operation" and that while he told her of the possibility of damage to a nerve root, he did not refer to the danger of damage to the spinal cord.

He also held that in not telling Mrs Sidaway of those two very important factors, Mr Falconer was "following a practice which, in 1974, would have been accepted as proper by a responsible body of skilled and experienced neuro-surgeons."

In dismissing Mrs Sidaway's claim the judge directed himself the way in which Mr Justice McNair directed the jury in *Bolton v Friern Hospital Management Committee* (1957) 1 WLR 823. He declined to develop the law on the lines of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Reibl v Hughes* (1981) 114 DLR 3d 133.

The *Bolton* direction had been approved by the House of Lords in *Whitehouse v McGregor* (1981) 1 WLR 246 and *Maynard v West Midlands Regional Health Authority* (1982) 1 WLR 275. The judge said that the standard of the ordinary skilled man exercising and professing to have that special skill.

The submission that there had been no consideration or approval by the Court of Appeal or the House of Lords of the *Bolton* test in the context of a duty to inform the patient of the risks inherent in the proposed treatment was correct.

If there was no valid distinction, the *Bolton* direction must also be applied to the other aspects of the doctor-patient relationship as it had been applied at first instance in *Chatterton v Ferson* (1981) 1 QB 432 and *Hilly v Potter* (1983) 3 All E.R. 714.

In both the law of England and of all the United States the consent of the patient was required to surgical operations, subject to certain immaterial exceptions. But in some of the United States it had been held

that what was required to avoid a charge of assault or liability for trespass to the person was a consent based on knowledge of all the facts relevant to the formation of an intelligent and informed consent.

The starting point of the leading authority *Canterbury v Spence* (1972) 464 Fed Rep 2nd 772 was expressed to be the concept, fundamental to American jurisprudence, that "every human being of adult years and sound mind has a right to determine what shall be done to his own body."

In *Reibl v Hughes* the Supreme Court of Canada rejected the concept that an uninformed consent to surgery was not a true consent. His Lordship was satisfied that as a matter of English law a consent was not vitiated by a failure on the part of the doctor to give the patient sufficient information before the consent was given. It was only if the consent was obtained by fraud or misrepresentation that it could be said that an apparent consent was not a true consent. That was the position in the criminal law. See *R v Clarence* (1888) 23 QBD 431.

In the context of medical diagnosis and treatment the law was content to adopt the standard of the ordinary skilled medical man exercising and professing that special skill.

His Lordship did not regard it as self-evident that the same was true of the duty of disclosure of information to the patient. It was not intended as a criticism of the medical profession whose members were dedicated to saving life and maintaining health.

The concession that a patient who was of sound mind, sufficient age and capable of placing the patient was entitled to grant or withhold consent to treatment as he saw fit must carry with it some duty to give information to the patient which would enable him, if so minded, to reach a rational decision.

What information should be disclosed, and how and when, was very much a matter for professional judgment in the context of the doctor's relationship with a particular patient in particular circumstances.

The general duty of a doctor to disclose information to his patient was to take such action by way of giving or withholding information as was reasonable in all the circumstances of which the doctor knew or ought to have known, including the patient's true wishes, with a view to placing the patient in a position to make a rational choice whether or not to accept the doctor's recommendation.

The definition of the duty of care was a matter for the law and the courts could not stand by if the professional, by an exercise of paternalism, denied their patients a real choice. The law would not permit the medical profession to play God.

The test was to add just one qualifying word ("rightly") to the law as the judge summarised it. "The duty is fulfilled if the doctor acts in accordance with a practice rightly accepted as proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men."

Mr Falconer had acted in accordance with a practice accepted as proper by a body of skilled and experienced medical men. The question was whether it was a proper practice.

He had regarded the possibility of spinal cord damage as too remote to form any part of the basis of a judgment by Mrs Sidaway as to whether she should accept the treatment recommended by him. The fact that in the event he had been proved wrong did not prove that he was negligent. His peers look the same view.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE DUNN, concurring, said that he did not believe that there was a separate and distinct duty ancillary to the doctor's general duty of care. Doctors treated patients and not diseases.

The nature of the warning and decision whether there was to be a warning formed part of the overall clinical judgment of the doctor. The crucial question was whether the steps taken were in all the circumstances reasonable.

The proof of the performance of the duty was of practical importance. The crucial question was whether the steps taken were in all the circumstances reasonable.

That being a matter of professional judgment the balancing of risks and benefits must be determined according to the *Bolton* test with one practical distinction. Questions of disclosure were to be decided by reference to the practice of the profession save where that practice did not rely on the circumstances of the particular patient. It was not the law that should establish that there was a *prima facie* duty to inform.

Solicitors: Armstrong & Co. Forest Hill, Le Brasseur & Bury.

In *Sutton v Secretary of State for the Environment* (The Times February 23) the second claim of the second paragraph of Mr Justice McCullough's judgment should read "sections 17(7), 14(1), (4)(b), 1(1), 1(2) strongly suggested that it should".

Tett v Phoenix & Investment Co Ltd and others

Before Mr Justice Vinelott. [Judgment delivered February 23]

A share transfer in breach of a pre-emption provision in the articles of a company was an effective transfer, although inchoate until registered.

Mr Justice Vinelott so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division granting the plaintiff, Mr Colin Charles Tett, a declaration that the transfer of 90 shares in the Phoenix & Investment Co Ltd to him was a valid and effective transfer which passed the property in the shares to him and that he was entitled to be registered in the company's register of members as the holder of the shares.

Mr Richard Mawrey for Mr Tett, Mr John Brisby for the company. MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that on February 26, 1982, 90 shares were transferred to Mr Tett in breach of article 5 of the company's articles of association which prohibited a member from offering his shares for sale unless they had previously been offered to other members.

Mr Brisby submitted that the transfer was wholly void and conferred no right or interest. A transfer which was void from the moment it was made could not become a valid transfer because the pre-emption provisions were subsequently complied with. He based that submission on *Hunter v Hunter* (1976) 42 223.

His Lordship rejected that submission. He thought that the correct analysis of *Hunter v Hunter* in that respect was elucidated by Mr Justice Black in *Re Haffner* (1943) 111 All ER 426 and *Re Justice Valley in Haffner v Haffner* (1951) 1 All ER 223.

The true position was that the transfer of February 26 was a complete and effective transfer as between the transferor and Mr Tett, although, to adopt the language of the *Haffner* case, it was "inchoate until registered and did not constitute Mr Tett the legal owner of the shares."

Solicitors: L. O. Glenister & Sons, Eastcote; Hewitt Woolcott & Chown.

Authorized Units and Investment Funds

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Wembley bingo bonanza was in breach of Gaming Act

Lock v Rank Leisure Ltd
Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Taylor. [Judgment delivered February 22]

A club could not lawfully carry on gaming in respect of which money, apart from the stake hazard, was charged, on premises which were not licensed under Part II of the Gaming Act 1968 unless they were its own premises.

Mr Justice Taylor, delivering a reserved judgment of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, so held, allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Brian Lock against a decision of the Greater London Council on April 27, 1983 had dismissed an information laid by him against Rank Leisure Ltd, alleging that it on June 6, 1982, was concerned in the organization at the Wembley Conference Centre of gaming to which Part I of the 1968 Act applied in contravention of section 3 of that Act in that a charge of money was made in respect of that gaming, contrary to section 8 of that Act.

Section 3(1) of the Gaming Act 1968 provided: "No gaming to which [Part I] of this Act applies shall take place in circumstances in which a charge of money is made in respect of that gaming."

Section 4, as amended by the Gaming (Amendment) Act 1973, provided: "(1) This section applies to gaming which—(a) is carried on as one of the activities of a club or a miners' welfare institute, whether the club or institute is registered under Part II or Part III of this Act or not; and (b) is gaming in respect of which none of the conditions specified in section 21 (relating to the nature of the games played) is fulfilled."

"(2) Nothing in section 3... of this Act shall have effect so as to prevent a charge from being made in respect of any person for the right to take part in gaming to which this section applies, if the charge is made to keep under review."

Before its amendment in 1973, section 40 had applied to clubs only if they were membership clubs. The purpose of the amendment had been to permit proprietary clubs to charge for gaming without licence or registration where it was unlikely to be exploited for commercial ends, and to enable different charges to be permitted for different types of club and in particular to enable bridge and whist clubs to be treated more favourably than others.

Section 40 was not intended to apply to a "bonanza" type of gaming, and the whole was concerned with premises, and so the reference to registration in section 40 meant registration in respect of the relevant premises. It was plain from the scheme of the Act that "club" in section 40 included its premises. Reference to a "bonanza" type of gaming in section 40 bore no relation to the 1973 Act and to that, referring as they did to gaming "at clubs" rather than "by them."

Moreover there was no reference in section 40 to licence holders, licensed premises or licences, which were played during each bingo session in each of the local premises. Any member taking part would pay 15p, which represented 10p stake money and 5p participation fee. The winner of each special game received his stake money back plus vouchers entitling him, *inter alia*, to participate in the "Bonanza Regional Final".

On June 6, 1982, the southern regional final took place at the conference centre, which was not licensed or registered under Part II of the 1968 Act. Only those with vouchers could take part and they paid no stake money. Prizes totalling £25,000 were distributed, including a first prize of £20,000.

Section 20(8) of the 1968 Act prohibited the awarding of such a prize for gaming on premises not licensed or registered under Part II of the Act.

The defendant company had contended that section 40 applied to the regional final and that section 39 therefore did not apply to it. If that were right it would drive a coach and horses through the controls in the Act for the regulation of commercial gaming, and would create a new field of such gaming outside the categories specified in section 10(3) of the 1968 Act which

was the duty of the Gaming Board to keep under review.

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That would be likely to have an adverse effect on the general standard of medical care: doctors would be concerned to safeguard themselves rather than to concentrate on their primary duty of treating their patients.

LORD JUSTICE BROWNE-WILKINSON, also concurring, said that there was no ground in English law for extending the limited doctrine of informed consent outside the field of property rights.

The only example of the extension of fiduciary duties to other fields was the decision of the House of Lords in the *Hedley Byrne* case (1964) AC 465.

Liability in negligence depended on the duty of care to be observed by the defendant, not on the rights of the plaintiff, other than the right not to be negligently injured.

The assumption of the role of adviser carried with it the duty to disclose material and unusual risks.

The proof of the performance of the duty was of practical importance. The crucial question was whether the steps taken were in all the circumstances reasonable.

That being a matter of professional judgment the balancing of risks and benefits must be determined according to the *Bolton* test with one practical distinction. Questions of disclosure were to be decided by reference to the practice of the profession save where that practice did not rely on the circumstances of the particular patient. It was not the law that should establish that there was a *prima facie* duty to inform.

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Accepting hearsay

Regina v Southampton City Council, Ex parte Ward and Another

Nothing in the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 required a local authority to act as if it were a court of law and reject hearsay evidence or require it to be confirmed by other information when it considered whether an applicant for accommodation under the Act was intentionally homeless; the authority was required to act reasonably.

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Debate unresolved by S Africans

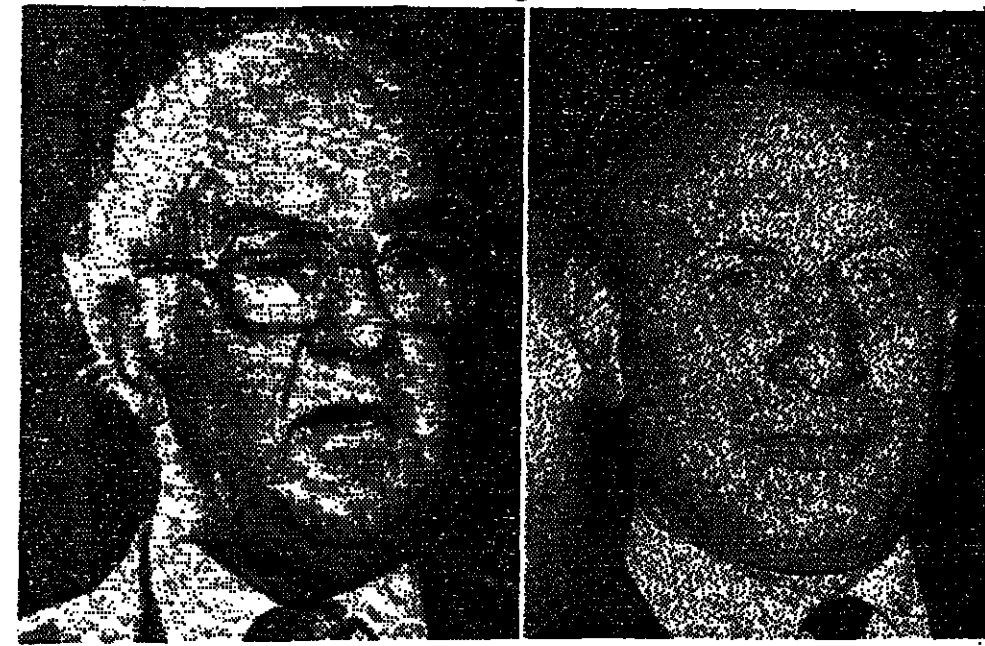
By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

There is little objectivity over sport and South Africa any more. One can therefore go to two press conferences in the space of four hours and find, at one, two leading South African sports administrators pressing their country's claim for readmittance to the world sport arena and, at the same time, feeling compelled to disclaim any attempt at propaganda; while at the second, the president of an English sporting body plays the dead end of dead bats on the subject of touring South Africa because he knows that his every word will be dissected several times over by a variety of interested parties.

Rudolph Opperman, president and vice-president respectively of the South African Olympic and National Games Association, return home today after a 10-day visit to Britain during which they had confidential talks in London, attended the England-Ireland rugby international without discussing the projected England tour to South Africa, and invited Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, to head a Commission to investigate the state of South African sport.

Since the Glencage Agreement was drawn up in 1977, laying down guidelines for sporting contact with South Africa, five fact-finding commissions have visited the republic. "We have complied with what other have asked us to do," Mr Opperman said yesterday. "We want the sportsmen who represent 28 million people to be allowed back."

The nub of the pro-South Africa argument is that the sportsmen have done everything which could be reasonably expected of them: the nub of the anti-apartheid bodies is that normal sport cannot exist in an abnormal society. The question that remains unresolved between the two sides is how one can expect sporting organizations to force a national



Rudolph Opperman from South Africa (left) and Ron Jacobs, of the Welsh RFU

government to alter one of the basic tenets by which it stands.

Restrictive laws, specifically the Liquor Act, the Group Areas Act and the Black Urban Areas Consolidation Act, have all been amended to exclude sportsmen, which may not comfort those black or coloured people who do not play games but is at least a beginning. Claims that such progress has come entirely as a result of the sporting boycott of South Africa brought the comment from Mr Opperman that sporting administrators had been demanding change since the mid-1950s, well before the boycott came along.

Sporting associations in South Africa have been asked to refrain from any kind of action which might harm the Olympic Games in Los Angeles this summer, and it is Mr Opperman's hope that an international Olympic Committee, which will visit South Africa after this year's Games, will see that a visit takes place could depend on whether England's rugby tour goes

ahead, and that will not be known until March 30, when the committee of the Rugby Football Union votes on the issue. Ron Jacobs, president of the RFU, said at a Sports Writers Association lunch yesterday that he would be concerned to see people making any sort of capital out of the RFU decisions, but he had no other comment to make on the tour.

"I think the other sporting bodies (in England) take the view that what we do is up to us," Mr Jacobs added. It may be some comfort to him that the Welsh Rugby Union have a related problem on their hands, since they have invited three players from each of the other seven International Board countries - which includes South Africa - to make up the Welsh President's team to play Wales on April 7, in a game celebrating the completion of the National Stadium at Cardiff Arms Park.

The WRU has received letters from, among others, the Welsh Parliamentary Labour

Party, the Association of Welsh Councils and Mid-Glamorgan County Council asking the Union to sever its links with South Africa. The education committee of Mid-Glamorgan Council has recommended the withdrawal of rugby facilities, including not granting leave to employees involved with rugby, should the WRU maintain those links, while the leisure and amenities committee of Swansea City Council has recommended withdrawing the use of the St Helens ground if a test containing South Africans intends to play there.

The President's team had been due to play Captain Crawshaw's XV at St Helens on April 3 in a game designed both as a warm-up for the main event the following Saturday and to raise funds for the WRU charitable trust for injured players. That match has now been switched to Stradey Park, Llanelli, and Ray Williams, secretary and manager of the WRU, said yesterday: "We must be allowed to conduct our own affairs as we think fit."

Man from nowhere still haunts Sibson

From Srikanth Sen
Boxing Correspondent Paris

Tony Sibson, for whom something always seems to go wrong in training - from too many cream-cakes and too little to eat, to a bad cold - said yesterday: "I've got it right this time."

Sibson, who came here five days ago to finish off his preparation for his challenge for the European middleweight title, has been sparring softly in a gym seven miles from his hotel in the centre of the city with Frank Winterstein, a former opponent of Louis Acaries, the champion. One day he even walked to the top of the Eiffel Tower.

All this activity, one might imagine, would induce a sound sleep at night, but the Leicester boxer's sleep has been restless. The reason for this is that the one man on his mind, night and day, that man is not the champion but the young American underdog, Don Lee, who dumped Sibson on his bottom in Atlantic City last month. Sibson went tumbling out of his hotel in the centre of the city with Frank Winterstein, a former opponent of Louis Acaries, the champion. One day he even walked to the top of the Eiffel Tower.

"That fight is the biggest regret of my career," Sibson said yesterday. "I hate losing and the first thing I'll do after winning back my title is give Don Lee a beating. That is why I have been training so hard."

He admitted that it had been his own fault that he had been so casual about the Lee bout. He said he had been too busy with his money and his social life. He said he had been too busy with his money and his social life. He said he had been too busy with his money and his social life.

Barton's hopes darken as Kendall's grow brighter

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Two managers looked out of the windows at Villa Park on Wednesday night and saw scenery as different as summer and winter. Howard Kendall, of Everton, caught sight of Wembley's twin towers shimmering on the dazzling horizon and Tony Barton, of Aston Villa, could scarcely ignore a dark silhouette that looked suspiciously like the gallows.

How swiftly their outlooks have altered. Within two months Kendall has heard soft whispers calling for his resignation because deep fears of support as his side reached the final of the Milk Cup but beating Villa 2-1 that were impossible to follow.

Some 31 months ago Barton became only the fifth British manager to claim the European Cup, but now the head of reportedly the lowest paid manager in the first division is expected to roll. Words of warning have already spilled from the lips of Villa's chairman, Doug Ellis, who stated that "this club will not stand for consistent failure."

With colleagues like that, Barton needs to be careful. His record hardly belongs in the category of "consistent failure" since Villa also won the Super Cup last season by defeating the brutal Spaniards of Barcelona. He merely had the misfortune to start his career by setting standards that were impossible to follow.

Luck has not been Barton's closest companion this season either. His successful team have been slowly dismantled by lack of money and injuries. McNaught, a reliable central defensive partner with Evans, left for financial reasons and Cowans, arguably his most goal player, has yet to recover from a broken leg sustained before the season began.

And while they looked he was "sitting deeper and deeper into my armchair, waiting for the fight which I did not want in the first place. I went in there thinking of Lee as a warm-up for the European championship. I was looking for a nice easy time. It all went wrong. I'll never happen again. Those days of drab, boring fights are over. I am no longer my own executioner."

Sibson's teasing and turning in bed has made him, curiously, all the sharper and meaner. Thanks to the defeat by Marvin Hagler, Sibson claims that he was in a bad mood when he took on Lee before his contest with John Collins in Atlantic City. "And I did a really good job on Collins," he said.

Sibson brushes the 30-year-old French champion aside, saying: "When I was European champion I never knew who Acaries was." Every thought in his mind keeps going back to Don Lee. I suspect that on Saturday, at the Bercy Stadium, Sibson will be seeing Lee in Acaries.

Lloyd Hoggan, of Britain, the official leading challenger, will meet Gilles Eblita, of France, the holder, for the European welterweight title. The European Boxing Union today put the purse to tender, with all offers to be received by March 8 and the arrangements to be completed by March 14.



Barton... under pressure

Shaw and Bremner have been ruled out of more than half of their fixtures (Evans alone has appeared in all of them). Spink has recently committed some inexplicable goal-keeping errors (one of them may have cost Villa a place in the final) and their league form remains curiously unbalanced. No first division club has won more games at home, none has won fewer away.

Barton, aware of the current uncertainty, is to meet two of his unsettled players next week. He will ask Shaw, whose name has been linked with Manchester United as well as some continental clubs, and Williams "to sign long-term contracts or the others withdrawn." His job other support is "to lift the team towards a place in Europe."

While Barton was left to contemplate his future, Kendall reflected on his "proudest moment" as a manager in the Alliance Premier League, when he won the title with Rotherham. Villa's substitute ended Everton's run of 14 games without defeat, he was delighted by

the performance that was disciplined rather than adventurous, more rather than inspired.

After Heath and Sharp had both struck the woodwork in the opening half-hour, Everton committed an attack that sparked only near goals. When Shaw and Williams, Morley's replacement, are out of form, Villa lack the touch of delicacy upon which so much of their recent success has been founded.

Although there are fears that Wembley may not be full on March 25, Kendall claimed that the first to be televised live for the first time "will make history because this will make it a special occasion." And if the prospect of meeting their neighbours was not enough, Everton must endure a dress rehearsal at home in eight days. Their visitors next Saturday are Liverpool.

Jules Rimet replica

Rio de Janeiro, (Reuter) - The international football federation (FIFA) have authorised a West German jeweller to make a replica of the Jules Rimet trophy, the old World Cup which was stolen from the headquarters of the Brazilian Football Federation last December.

Millwall change

Millwall have brought forward their League match with Bradford City from Sunday, March 11 to Saturday, March 10 because of a clash with the live television of the FA Cup tie between Sheffield Wednesday and Southampton.

Mike Pejic, the former Stoke City, Everton and Aston Villa defender, whose playing career was ended by a knee injury, was appointed manager of Leek Town of the North-West Counties League.

Burns goes on loan

Kenny Burns joined Derby County on loan yesterday after the Football League had lifted the transfer embargo on the hard-up second division club. Burns, a Scottish defender signed from Huddersfield on Saturday in place of suspended Dave Watson, 32, centre half.

The league sought confirmation that Derby had paid off existing debts to Nottingham Forest, Oldham and Chesterfield before easing their transfer restrictions. "Derby have settled their debts with all other league clubs and we have lifted the ban," confirmed a League spokesman.

Derby have also taken steps to settle up with Norwich and the Football Association after last Saturday's fifth round Cup tie.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

MILK CUP: First round, second leg. Aston Villa 1, Everton 0 (aggregate 1-2). Everton won 1-0. Second round, first leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, second leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, third leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, fourth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, fifth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, sixth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, seventh leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, eighth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, ninth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, tenth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, eleventh leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, twelfth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, thirteenth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, fourteenth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, fifteenth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, sixteenth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. Second round, seventeenth leg. Everton 1, Aston Villa 0. 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Ryan's Son, now 16, could find Los Angeles to his liking

A legendary partnership that could scale Olympic heights

"They say it is not the winning but the taking part that counts but, if I go to the Games, I want to win," John Whitaker makes no bones about the Olympic ideal. At 28 he is the most experienced rider on Britain's Olympic showjumping shortlist and, because he hopes to turn professional at the end of the year, this will be his last attempt to gain an Olympic medal, "the greatest thing a rider can do."

At the moment he and his younger brother, Michael, are in the middle of a £60,000 sponsorship with Next Collectables. The contract is for a year and the package has been put together by the British Equestrian Federation so that it does not endanger the brothers' amateur status. Such are the anomalies of Olympic eligibility that, in completing his most successful year Whitaker not only became the European individual silver medal winner but also finished top of the international money winners' table as well as of the combined national and international tables. Yesterday, in recognition of his outstanding year, he received the Martini Award for showjumping which is presented annually to the year's top personality in equestrian sports.

Strangely, even taking part at the Olympics has eluded Whitaker so far. He has twice before been shortlisted, but in 1976 he was dropped when Ryan's Son refused at the final trial, and in 1980 there was the boycott of the Moscow Olympics. "Everything was rising at that time (1980). We were all set and Ryan was just the right age". Now it is touch and go.

Ryan's Son is 16 and, although the legendary partnership shows no sign of ending, Whitaker is undecided as to whether Ryan's Son should be made available to the Olympics. "He has been such a good horse. I don't want to finish him in one go". The fears are understandable. The last three Olympic games have been exceptionally big - as was that for the world championships at Dublin in 1982 - and big tracks take their toll on horses.

The Los Angeles course is thought to be tricky rather than big and that, as Ronnie Massarella, the British *chef d'équipe*, pointed out, means that "Of all the possible Olympic horses Ryan's Son could be the one most suited technically to the course".

He is a veteran of more than 30 Nations Cup events and the most consistent horse to have appeared - and stayed - on the international scene in the last decade. He is also the most popular. His white blaze, kindly eye and indomitable spirit have made him the darling of the showjumping world. The admiration is mutual. Ryan's Son's celebrated kick-back after jumping the last fence is his acknowledgement to the crowds he loves. "He's showing off really" Whitaker says. "When the crowd claps he knows he's done well and gives a buck". Whitaker's modesty obscures an essential ingredient

in the horse's success. Massarella restores the perspective. "Ryan's Son is one of the best the world's ever produced, but then he's ridden so well.... John is the most level-headed chap for the (Olympic) job. He has the flair, the magic, the guts, the knowledge and all the capabilities in the world."

It is Whitaker's quiet, stylish riding, allied with a ruthless determination to succeed, that makes him an invaluable member of any team. He weighs only 10 stone and has the lightest of hands. To watch him in the ring is to see showjumping at its gentlest but most effective.

The eldest of four brothers he was brought up on a 150-acre farm at Outland near Huddersfield. He started at five on the family's old milk pony. Early lessons came from his mother, then the Rockwood Harriers Pony Club. The only other formal instruction he has received was on a three-day course with Dick Stillwell, the British Show Jumping Association's top instructor.

Whitaker inherits the will to win from his mother, Enid. "She is the perfectionist. Mr. Whitaker has started a small riding school to help make the ponies pay their way and gradually the young Whitaker got more rides as local people, admiring his skill, asked if he would ride for them. But there were no thoughts of making riding his career.

Whitaker's father, Donald, decided to buy a promising



Olympic hopefuls: John Whitaker on Ryan's Son

Whitaker started riding Ryan's Son around June. By October he was Grade B. The following year he quickly climbed to Grade A. The turning point was the Great Yorkshire Show. Whitaker had entered Singing Wind and Ryan's Son. He won the first class with Ryan's Son, beating all the top names, and the next class he won with Singing Wind.

Ryan's Son's schedule that year had been specifically directed. The chosen team was Harvey Smith, David Broome, Nick Skelton and Malcolm Pirah. General Sir Cecil Blacker, chairman of the selection committee, admits that it had been an extremely difficult decision to decide on the four. "We discussed it for hours and in the end we went for what we knew was a winning combination" (the four had just returned from a glorious victory in the Nations Cup in Paris).

Barly two weeks after the team was announced Whitaker was called upon after all. His determination to succeed was never greater. He and Ryan's Son finished with the individual silver medal as well as helping the team to silver. The following month he won an even greater reward, the £14,000 first prize in the British Jumping Derby.

Whitaker's victories are not all due to Ryan's Son. Last year he enjoyed success with a variety of Grade A horses including Blue Moon, Charlie's Angel and Noveltino, an Andalusian stallion on whom he won £8,316.

He has high hopes of a South-African bred horse which has recently joined the yard. Before that, however, higher hopes still may rest upon another - no novice but a woolly-looking horse in a New Zealand rug which I saw grazing in a small walled field in beside the Whitaker's Yorkshire farmhouse. The broad white blaze revealed his identity. Ryan's Son, enjoying a well-deserved rest from the rigours of the circuit, carried on munching the grass as we approached blissfully unaware of his master's current dilemma - a dilemma which at present is merely taking part.

Jenny MacArthur

Scholarship for Miss Schwerd

Polly Schwerd, aged 20, from Devon has won the Martini scholarship, an annual award to help promising young riders, after her outstanding year with Dylan II. The pair finished eighth at Badminton and crowned this by taking the team gold and individual bronze medals at the European Young Riders championships in September. Dylan II is only 15 hands high and was originally bought for Miss Schwerd to take to Pony Club events.

The Martini Awards are decided annually by the vote of readers of *Horse and Rider*, *Pony* and the *Topic* group of regional magazines. Jilly Cooper, who is writing a novel based on the horse world, presented riders with their awards.

WINNERS: Showjumping, John Whitaker, Horse; Lucinda Green, Dressage; Jennie Loriston-Clarke, Showing; Vin Toulson, Driving; Christine Dick, Point to Point; Jennie Pidgeon, Topic trophy for the Midlands and North; Christopher Barrie.

showjumper, Singing Wind, which reached the Foxhunter final at Wembley in his first season, the Young Riders in his second, and by the third had topped for most of the top shows. The foundations of Whitaker's career were laid.

Ryan's Son next appeared on the scene. Donald Whitaker saw and admired him at local shows when ridden by Sandra Wright, his then owner. He and Donald Oates, from whom they had bought Singing Wind, resolved to buy Ryan's Son. In fact Oates bought him for around £800, then sold him at a couple of shows, then was unavailable and asked Whitaker to "It was like clockwork: everything worked straight away". Donald Whitaker and Oates renegotiated before John's future father-in-law, Malcolm Barr stepped in and secured the horse for John. For £2,000 a legend began.

In their first season (1973)

His arrival on the international stage was confirmed when the following year (1975) he joined the British team to Ostend, Rotterdam and Poland. In 1976 he and Ryan's Son were shortlisted for the Olympics and did so well at the trial at Cardiff that Whitaker was led to believe that he was a definite starter for Montreal. Undecided about the rest of the team the selectors called a final trial at Hickstead. Ryan's Son was unprepared and had not had the necessary outings before a big competition. He was "wild and mad" that day and stopped several times. "He's never stopped like that before, he just switched off", Whitaker lost his place in the team.

There have been other disappointments, notably last summer when he was left out of the team for the European Championships, to which

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Chance for Slough to regain title

By Sydney Friskia

There will be a parade of England's silver medal winning team from the recent European indoor championships at Crystal Palace today, when the final stages of the national club championship are to be played. Richard Clarke, who scored 18 goals for England in the European event at Edinburgh, will not be seen in action today, because his club, Tulsa Hill, last year's winner, was eliminated from the qualifying round. Since there should be some quality in Slough's attempt to regain its title they lost last year to Tulsa Hill, and there is the possibility of a clash in the final with East Grinstead, who knocked them out of the outdoor championship last Sunday. There are others such as South Nottingham and Firebrands who may also come through. South Nottingham, winners of the Indoor Hockey National Tournament on November 5, have a prolific scorer, Nick Clark, who has been selected for England's under-21 side to play against Wales on March 6 at Worcester.

Australians to tour England

By Joyce Whitehead

As the four home international B teams prepare for their tournament at Old Trafford today and tomorrow, Australian have announced their plans for their visit to England in the summer. They will tour between July 17 to 23, with matches against England on July 21 and 22. Scotland have nine newcomers in their squad of 16, which is captained by Margery Couss. Marie Crawford, captain of Ireland B, who has five players from Ulster, four from Leinster, and five from Munster. Wales have two players with World Cup experience, Jackie Williams, and with 113 full caps, and 21 Great Britain caps, who leads the side. England also include two full internationals, Karen Lobb, the captain, and Margaret Souvay, the former England captain, with 76 caps. There are four new faces, Angela Cannel, Caroline Rule, Denise Parker and Katherine Gurr. Carol Dudley is having a baby, and her place will be taken by Mary Cheetham.

Tyrrell backs Brundle and all-British team

By John Blunsden

Ken Tyrrell, under whose guidance Jackie Stewart won 25 of his record number of 27 Grands Prix and all three of his world championships, has spoken out strongly about the loss of opportunity for British driving talent through lack of home-based sponsorship. Reusuring overtures from heavily financed Italian drivers and despite the absence of a major sponsor, he has signed on a three-year contract one of Britain's brightest prospects, Martin Brundle, aged 24 from King's Lynn, who will make his Grand Prix debut in Brazil on March 25.

"I want to run an all-British team", Mr Tyrrell told me yesterday. "But I may have to put an Italian in the second car if I cannot find the backing in this country. It's a ludicrous situation with drivers like John Watson and Jonathan Palmer still without Formula One drives."

The deadline for nominating drivers is Tuesday. Mr Tyrrell is hoping to stretch the date until March 12, when FISA will confirm the full racing calendar. His operating budget of £1.5m for two cars and a development programme is about a third of that of the top turbo-powered teams. The Tyrrell will run the less expensive three-litre Ford Cosworth DFV engine, for which a significant power increase was found on the test bed earlier this week.

"We will still be uncompetitive in practice - we shall probably qualify about sixteenth out of 26 - but it will be a different matter in the race. We shall be about 200 to 300 lighter than the turbos on the start line, so we will be using softer tyres and we ought to be able to outbrake them as well. At Brands Hatch, Zolder, Montreal, Detroit, Dallas, Rio and perhaps Fujiwara we should be in particularly good shape."

Tyrrell's choice of Brundle rather than Palmer was a difficult one.

Way open for third British team

By John Wilcockson

The withdrawal of Hosokawa from the Sealink International race has opened the way for a third team of British professionals to take part in the five-day race starting on April 9. It seems that the three teams, officially representing Britain, England and the Professional Cycling Association, will be based on the three largest sponsored squads: Raleigh-Weinman, Falcon and a new team to be announced next week.

Each team will be increased to six riders by the inclusion of individually sponsored men such as Tony Doyle, whose contracted back to the RMC Group was confirmed earlier this week. Doyle was second in the 1983 Sealink race behind Bert Weckmans, of The Netherlands, who is now a professional with the Shimano-Raleigh team on the Continent.

Competing against the three professional teams in April will be seven amateur formations: Denmark, England, Great Britain, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway and Poland. It is understood that Czechoslovakia are hoping to take part.

IN BRIEF

FOOTBALL: Courage, the brewers, have taken over sponsorship of the Football League indoor six-a-side tournament, in conjunction with Birmingham City Council. It will be played at the National Exhibition Centre on March 27 and 28, with Arsenal, Aston Villa, Ipswich Town, Nottingham Forest, Southampton, Watford and West Bromwich Albion, expected to challenge for the £45,000 prize money.

MOTOR RACING: A civil rights group is protesting against the inclusion of a South African team in this weekend's Miami Grand Prix, calling it an insult to local blacks. The group is asking Miami citizens to call the race promoter, Ralph Sanchez and city officials, to complain about the entry of Graham Duxbury and Sarel Van dermerg.

VOLLEYBALL: The women's international between the United States and Japan in London on May 25, which would be a rehearsal for the Olympic games final, will be shown on BBC TV's *Grandstand* the following day

